Hafa Adai!

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BEH closes Garapan restaurant

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Bureau of Environmental Health suspended yesterday the operation of Happiness Chinese Restaurant in Garapan after it was found in violation of sanitary regulations, not because of a video that claimed that the establishment was serving cat meat.

A video and photos posted on Facebook went viral yesterday, allegedly showing a person butchering an animal that turned out to be a cat at the back of the restaurant.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. public information officer Sam Birmingham-Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* that BEH officials inspected the restaurant in the afternoon and confirmed that it was a cat that was being butchered at the back alley of the restaurant by one of their kitchen workers Monday night. The kitchen worker turned out to be a cook at Happiness.

The cook, however, said the cat

See BEH on Page 4

The Bureau of Environmental Health suspended yesterday the operation of Happiness Chinese Restaurant in Garapan. JON PEREZ

Man admits group 'cooked' meth

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sidney Capelle Kani, one of four men indicted in federal court in connection with an alleged meth lab on Saipan, has confessed that their group indeed "cooked" meth or "ice."

Kani pleaded guilty yesterday to the indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine, and manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine

See MAN on Page 4

ANTI-CANCER ADVOCATES
Members of the Young Gunz Motorcycle Club go on a tribute ride along Beach Road as advocates for the battle against cancer. KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

See story on Page 4

'Denied CW permits for nurses would threaten healthcare'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A lawmaker expressed concern yesterday about reports that the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has yet to obtain confirmation whether any of their immigration application for their foreign nurses had been approved.

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) told *Saipan Tribune* that any development that would throttle CHCC's capacity to obtain work permits from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for CHCC nurses would be "regrettably sad," especially with the rise in demand for inpatient and outpatient services, as stated in the CHCC 2017 report.

"Our hospital and health centers

See DENIED on Page 4

Torres: AG was involved with Docomo MOU

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Attorney General Edward Manibusan was involved in the CNMI-Docomo Pacific memorandum of understanding that allocated $6 million for the telecommunication company to connect both Rota and Tinian when it was laying its fiber optic cable called Atisa for Saipan, according to the governor.

In a statement to *Saipan Tribune*, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the attorney general was involved in the CNMI-Docomo Pacific MOU, despite the claims of Rep. Ed K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) stating otherwise.

"…The [attorney general] was in-

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People nixing vacations to Hawaii's Big island has cost the tourism industry millions of dollars.
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Israeli forces shoot and kill 57 Palestinians and injure more than 2,700 during mass protests.
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Local

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

DFEMS honors 24 firefighters

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Commissioner Clyde K. Norita announces this year's DFEMS awardees during a public service recognition week ceremony held at DFEMS building in Garapan yesterday. Seated, with their back to the camera, are, from right, Senate President Arnold Palacios, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, and House Speaker Rafael Demapan.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services recognized 24 firefighters yesterday during a public service recognition ceremony at the DFEMS building in Susupe.

Commissioner Clyde Norita named the awardees, while Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres handed them plaques of recognition.

Fire Lt. Jesus T. Taitano Jr. and Fire Lt. John T. Blas were also presented with leadership awards. Fire Capt. Paul B. Sasamoto was recognized for 15 years of service.

Torres said the Commonwealth has seen the

department grow. In fact, one of the bills that he authored when he was still a senator was to divide Fire and the Department of Public Safety.

"Now we have a full force Fire Department and I'm very happy and proud of all its success," Torres said.

The governor recounted that Norita pushed hard to have the department fully equipped and to have all employees properly trained.

"I feel very blessed that the CNMI is really protected when you call 911 or any other issue pertaining to our Fire Department," he said.

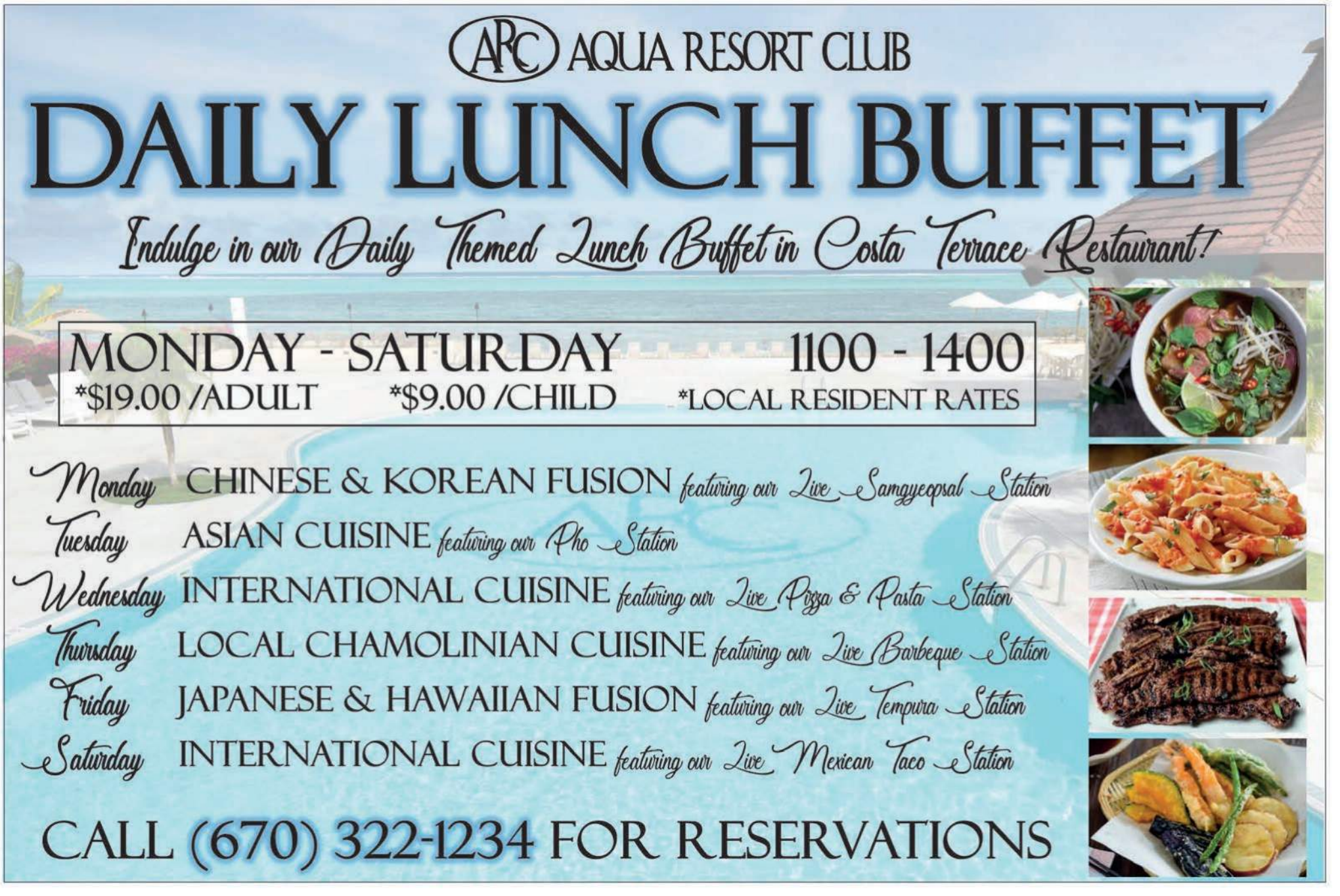
Norita said the job itself of being a firefighter and a police officer requires commitment.

"It's unappreciated, dangerous job in the Commonwealth compared to other states and territories as the salary way back was low," he said.

In the past three years, though, with the budget reallocation and new pay scales, these measures help retain good employees and attract new ones.

The employees of the year awardees were Firefighter II Abraham S. Quitugua, Alpha Company Division; FF III Justin Mizutani Jr., Bravo Company Division; FFIII Albert Lee T. Aldan, Charlie Company Division; FFIII Derek B. Gersonde, Office of the Commissioner; FFIII Clinton O. Ngiraked, training division; FFIII Christino I. George, fleet and facility division; FFIII Christine S. Fungkugub, Data Division; FFIII Argernon A. Flores, administrative division; FFI Nipighiyong T. Laniyo, enforcement division; and FFIII Patrick I. George, grants division.

For 10 years of service, the awardees were FFIIIs Albert Lee T. Aldan, Joaquin T. Camacho, Robert P. Camacho, Robert C. Cruz, Gary S. Cruz, Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero, Maynard S. Duenas, Christine S. Fungkugub, Alejandrof M. King, Richard D. Manalo, Benjamin Paul T. Manglona, Ralph L. Magofna, Linus Mizutani Jr., and Vincent F. Sablan.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Young bikers join battle against cancer

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members of the Young Gunz Motorcycle Club express support for the efforts of the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Members of the Young Gunz Motorcycle Club made their public debut via a tribute ride as advocates for the battle against cancer.

Like their older counterpart, the Matua Riders, the youth group intends to reach out through charitable events or by showing their support for causes. The first community event the club put together was the tribute ride called Ride Against Cancer last Thursday.

The youth motorcycle club stems from the Matua Riders Motorcycle Club. The YG club is basically made up of younger Matua Riders.

According to former Matua Rider official Marie Salas-Igitol, the YGs were amped up to support the battle against cancer.

"This was YG's first event for this year. They were revved up to do a tribute ride in honor of those who succumbed to, survived, and are currently battling cancer," she said.

The battle against cancer is also personal for the club as one of its members, former police officer Israel Deleon, is currently battling cancer.

Deleon said he was emotional but also happy during the tribute ride and was nearly moved to tears as he rode with his club mates.

Deleon is currently supported by the Commonwealth Cancer Association and is also working with the association to establish more fundraisers or community events to spread awareness.

The YGs attended the proclamation signing last Wednesday at the Hopwood Middle School field in support of the Marianas March Against Cancer and also rode in the MMAC event last Friday in a convoy.

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Driver of car that collided with cop car found at fault

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 63-year-old man who was driving the car that collided with a police vehicle in Sadog Tasi Monday afternoon was found at fault.

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Jacqueline Rae Shepard said yesterday that it was the red 2016 Toyota Corolla that hit the police vehicle.

Shepard said the driver was cited for making an illegal turn and not yielding to an emergency vehicle.

Shepard said that, according to the driver, he did not see the police vehicle or hear its sirens.

She said the driver and his passenger as well as the two police officers in the police vehicle were brought to the Commonwealth Health Center for evaluation. All were treated and later released.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services on Monday said that, according to the driver, he was making a U-turn at the Sadog Tasi traffic light intersection when the police vehicle hit their car on the front driver's side.

DFEMS said the DPS vehicle is a Chevy Tahoe.

DFEMS spokesman Derek Gersonde said the car's driver complained of pain on his left side, while his passenger, a 53-year-old woman, had pain on her left leg.

Shepard said DPS dispatch received Monday at 1:58pm a call from a police officer reporting an auto accident involving a police vehicle at the Sadog Tasi traffic light intersection.

The crash happened on Chalan Pale Arnold Highway corner Isa Drive near the Mobil gas station.

Shepard said the police vehicle approached the intersection with lights and sirens on.

She said cars were stopped at the traffic light as the officers entered the center median in an effort to pass the cars at the light.

At that time, Shepard said, the driver of the Corolla made a U-turn and struck the police vehicle.

BEH

From Page 1

that he took home was for his own consumption. His living quarters are at the upper level of the building.

"The health inspectors did not find any cat remains or cat meat within the restaurant. However, the establishment was issued a suspension of operations for other unsanitary practices," the BEH statement said.

Health inspectors found out that the restaurants' food and drinks were stacked on the floor, their meat storage had poor temperature control, there was roach infestation, and an unclean kitchen, kitchen equipment, floor, and bathroom.

BEH slapped Happiness with a $4,000 fine for the various health violations.

Compliance with BEH regulations

Senate Health and Welfare Committee chair Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) told *Saipan Tribune* that Happiness must comply with health regulations. "Even if it's for an employees' consumption, the fact remains that the restaurant must be in compliance with BEH regulations."

"The employee should cook food at home and not at the establishment where it is regulated by laws and regulations. Contamination of any sort spreads fast [and] may cause health issues to their customers."

She added that BEH was just doing its job of implementing health regulations in establishments that serve or handle food. "BEH conducted a thorough and periodic inspection of the restaurant. In doing so, it ensures that the customers are protected from any unsanitary or unclean food. Those found in violation of BEH regulations should be penalized to the fullest extent, including revocation of their business license," Santos said.

No animal cruelty laws

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) echoed the need for the CNMI to have animal cruelty laws to protect cats and dogs that are house pets. He has re-introduced House Bill 20-24 or the Animal Protection Act, to make illegal the cruel treatment of animals, like cats and dogs, and theft, while providing penalties for such actions.

He told *Saipan Tribune*, in a telephone interview, that the CNMI is the only place in the United States that has no animal protection laws. "In every other state and territory, there are animal cruelty laws in place."

"That's why we need this animal protection act. In our society, cats and dogs are considered pets and are not for consumption," said Propst.

He said that H.B. 20-24 unanimously passed the House and is just awaiting Senate action. "I'm hoping they [Senate] would pass it and we're waiting for it. Senate President [Arnold I.] Palacios said that he supports the bill."

"I'm hoping we could act now and have an animal cruelty law in place soon. I hope we can finally have a public law that's against the cruel treatment of animals."

He pointed out that Public Law 11-40 only makes illegal the sale—not personal consumption—of food that contains wholly or in part cat or dog meat. "It is legal in the CNMI to slaughter and consume cats and dogs for personal consumption, so long as it is not sold for consumption."

"Based on [P.L. 11-40], restaurants cannot serve cat or dog meat. In the case of Happiness Restaurant, the cook was slaughtering a cat for personal consumption. The restaurant was shut down for unsanitary kitchen conditions," Propst said.

Horrible act

Saipan Cares for Animals director Beth Pliscou, in a separate interview with *Saipan Tribune*, said that what the kitchen worker did was a horrible and inhumane act. "We don't eat cat or dog meat here in our community."

"Even if it's a stray, these are domesticated animals. They are house pets. This is horrible. That's why we need to finally have an animal cruelty law for the protection of…cats and dogs," she said.

Despite the kitchen worker's claim that the cat he butchered was for personal consumption, Pliscou pointed out that the incident happened at the back of the restaurant. "It makes us wonder what kind of food are being served to the public. It is important that the public know that what they are eating is not cat or dog meat, or the food was prepared in a place that complied with sanitary regulations," said Pliscou.

MAN

From Page 1

on premises where a child is present and resides.

The charges carry a total maximum penalty of not more than 40 years and a fine not to exceed $1.2 million.

Kani will be sentenced on Aug. 24, 2018.

In his admissions, Kani said that, between July 1, 2017, and Feb. 25, 2018, his co-defendants—Vincent David Cabrera Jr., Eugene Blas Repeki Jr., and Rick Urumelog Omar Jr., along with others—conspired to manufacture and distribute meth.

Kani said beginning on at least Jan. 1, 2018, he knew of the group's agreement to make and distribute meth and that he joined in the agreement.

Kani said he, along with Cabrera, Repeki and Omar, obtained items such as pseudoephedrine, lithium batteries, cold packs, iodized salt, lye, lighter fluid, plastic water bottles, and/or coffee filters, to use to make meth.

He said they would smoke the meth, as well as sell and/or give to other people.

Kani said that, between Jan. 1, 2018, and Feb. 25, 2018, members of the group or persons working at their behest, purchased at least 24,000mg of pseudoephedrine from local pharmacies, which were eventually manufactured into at least five grams of actual meth.

Kani said that last Feb. 1, he received a call from a person who, unknown to him, was working as a confidential source of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

That day, the confidential source picked him up from his house and they drove to Repeki's house to obtain meth. He said when they arrived at Repeki's house, the meth was not ready and that the confidential source waited in the car until the meth was "cooked."

"At one point, I asked the [confidential source] to go purchase table salt for the manufacturing process," Kani said.

When the meth was finally done, Kani said, he, along with Repeki and his small child who lives in the premises, got into a silver Toyota Camry. He said they backed down the driveway until they were next to the confidential source's vehicle.

"I got out of the car Repeki was driving and handed the methamphetamine to the [confidential source], who gave me $140 in return," Kani said.

The DEA later tested the meth sold to the confidential source and results showed it had a net weight of approximately .41 gram, with a 46 percent purity level (or .18 gram of pure methamphetamine).

Last May 4, Omar pleaded guilty to the same charges.

DENIED

From Page 1

are in need of our nurses in order to ensure that the delivery of healthcare services are not jeopardized," Santos said. "These data justify the dire need of maintaining our CW nurses," she said.

Santos hopes that USCIS reconsiders the immigration applications of the nurses, given how vital the profession is for the health and welfare of the CNMI.

"The need to retain our CW nurses is critical for the delivery of healthcare services on all three islands," she said.

In a separate statement yesterday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said it is "unfortunate and disappointing" that no CW-1 permit applications for CHC nurses got approved for fiscal year 2019.

Despite the adverse news, Torres remains hopeful that the U.S. House of Representatives would pass U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski's (R-AK) S. 2325, a bill that resets the CW cap for fiscal year 2019 to 13,000; provides additional validity to long-time CW workers; and extends the CNMI transitional period, along with programs under it such as the CW program and the E-2C investor program, to fiscal year 2029.

"Gov. Torres has worked tirelessly with Sen. Murkowski to ensure that we have legislation in place that acknowledges long-term workers and vital occupations such as nurses for our hospital, while protecting U.S. workers. The product of that work, Senate Bill 2325, would provide protections for nurses and critical positions in the CNMI. We've done a lot through the Senate and are thankful we were able to pass the bill through unanimous consent. Now we await U.S. House of Representatives action to approve S. 2325. The hospital and our people need immediate attention and action on this important issue from Washington D.C.," the statement said.

As of publication, S. 2325 remains with the U.S. House of Representatives and is expected to be acted on soon.

TORRES

From Page 1

volved throughout the process of creating an MOU in direct coordination with Office of the Governor and Docomo," the short statement to *Saipan Tribune* said.

The Torres administration declined to comment further until the bill is on the governor's desk for enactment.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-165 is currently pending at the Senate floor for action while H.B. 20-164 is at the conference committee for review.

Demapan

Both bill contain provisions that pay Docomo Pacific $1.3 million for extending fiber optic cable connectivity to the islands of Rota and Tinian.

During the House discussions on H.B. 20-165, Propst pointed out that the CNMI-Docomo Pacific MOU was non-binding in nature since it lacked the approval of the attorney general.

Propst questioned whether the MOU condition should be addressed since the MOU also did not specifically indicate that the CNMI government would shoulder the additional costs for the fiber optic cable project.

According to a copy of the March 10, 2016, MOU, it was agreed, among other things, that the CNMI would request for federal funding from the U.S. Department of the Interior to increase the CNMI Capital Improvement Projects funds allocation for three years or, alternatively, increase the Technical Assistant Grant Fund to facilitate the project.

Also according to the MOU, in the case that the endeavor to increase funding is unsuccessful, the CNMI would have to look for alternate sources of funding the project.

"…If the CNMI is unsuccessful in obtaining an increase in the CIP funds and/or the Technical Assistance Grant funds, the government of the CNMI will endeavor to commit funding from alternative sources for the next three years in consideration for bandwidth capacity by Docomo Pacific commensurate with the amount of the CNMI government investment," the MOU added.

Demapan, author of both H.B. 20-164 and H.B. 20-165, said during the discussions on H.B. 20-165 in a House session last Friday that the appropriation from the Casino Gross Revenue Tax would be the alternative source of funding.

Resolution discovers first NMC president

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Turns out that former Northern Marianas College president Agnes McPhetres, who is usually touted as the first president of the college, is not so, as discovered in a previous Senate resolution.

The House Committee on Judicial and Governmental Operations found out yesterday that McPhetres, as stated in House Speaker Rafael Demapan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-133, is not the first president of NMC.

After digging through previous legislative records, it was found that, according to Senate Resolution 3-56, Catherine J. Porter served as the first president of NMC.

H.B. 20-133 seeks to rename NMC building P in honor of the achievements and contributions of McPhetres, who was apparently the second president of the college.

The committee amended the bill to reflect the newly unearthed fact.

The committee further amended the bill to allow the signage of Building P, which would be known as the "Agnes Manglona McPhetres Administrative Building" if enacted, to conform to the signage already existing within NMC.

Based on NMC's comments on H.B. 20-133, the college does not support the bill.

HB 20-133 now heads to the House floor for action.

Rota energy campaign this Saturday

The Department of Public Works, through the Energy Division Office, will be holding its 2018 Rota Energy Awareness Campaign on Saturday, May 19, from 8am to 11:30am at the Rota Mayor's Office.

Through the Energy, Education, Efficiency and Conservation Program, DPW will be distributing 12 LED light bulbs which will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis and while supplies lasts.

This promotion is only available to residential consumers who must provide their most recent utility billing and identification.

This event will provide the residential community tips on how to conserve energy, how to save money using efficient products that carry the Energy Star label and discuss the importance of energy conservation in the Commonwealth.

For questions or information regarding this promotion, contact Maile Iakopo at 664-4480/4. ***(PR)***

EMERGENCY RESCUE
Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services firefighters open the elevator door at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality building in Gualo Rai, where two persons were stuck in the elevator. There was no information given as to why the two persons got stuck. **DFEMS**

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BECQ names two employees of the year

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality honors some of its employees for exemplary service to the public.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In commemoration of Public Servants Recognition Week, the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality recognized over 10 employees for their exemplary dedication to their jobs and named two overall best division employees.

The Division Employee of the Year award for DCRM was given to Charito Bautista and the Leadership Award for the same division was given to Jonathan Arriola.

The Division Employee of the Year award for DEQ was given to Anne Marie Navarrete and the Leadership Award for the same division was given to Ben Benavente.

Bautista was surprised when she was called up to receive her award because she felt there are others who deserved the award too.

According to Bautista, she has been working with BECQ for three years and she appreciates that BECQ recognized her efforts despite being practically new at her job

Navarrete said the award motivates her to continue with the quality of work she does and to improve if there is room for improvement.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said it is important to recognize the CNMI's public servants for all the tremendous work they put into the development of the community everyday.

Torres said that public servants like Navarrete and Bautista deserve all the praise and recognition for the amount of sacrifices they make and the quality of work they bring to the table.

Aside from BECQ, Torres also visited other government agencies including the Marianas Visitors Authority, the Saipan Mayor's Office, and the Commonwealth Development Authority on Monday.

Other awards distributed include Best Attendance, Most Loyal, Most Organized, Social Director, Fitness Freak, Office Fashionista, Best Smile, Biggest Bark No Bite, and Jack-of-All-Trades.

At BECQ, the Best Attendance award went to Edward Dela Cruz; the Most Loyal award was given to Navarrete; the Most Organized award was given to Robert Deleon Guerrero; the Social Director award was given to Jose Kaipat; the Fitness Freak award was given to Rodney Camacho; the Office Fashionista award went to Olivia Tenorio; the Best Smile award went to Melvin Piteg; the Biggest Bark, No Bite award was given to Carlos Ketebengang; the Jack of All Trades award was given to Jacob Lizama; and the Biggest Spender award was given to Jose Kaipat.

Bautista and Navarrete were awarded plaques with a matching bonus of $250. The two will vie for the position of overall Employee of the Year that will be announced during the annual Labor Day celebration. Other awardees were given plaques of appreciation.

(AMENDMENT #2)
Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, May 17, 2018
5:00 PM, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio
Multipurpose Center, Susupe
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 04/19/2018 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings:

1. Conditional Use Application #2018-1010: Saipan Brewing Co., LLC is proposing to occupy an existing one-storey structure for a home-based small scale brewing of alcohol beverages. This use is classified as "Cottage Industry" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 1463 NEW-1 in Navy Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.

2. Conditional Use Application #2018-1165: Art Ridge Village Homes, LLC is proposing to construct a 7-storey structure to operate an apartment with a total of 48 3-bedroom units. This project is classified as "Multifamily or Apartment" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot Nos. 1925-1, 1925-2, 1925-3-1, & 1925-5-R1 (current Triple J Motors location) in Garapan. This area is zoned as Beach Road.

3. Conditional Use Application #2018-1168: Karidat Saipan is proposing to occupy an existing 2-storey structure (former Sister Remedios Pre-school/Daycare building) as office spaces for Karidat programs & services. This use is classified as "Office Use" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 007 H 01 in Chalan Kanoa. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

4. Conditional Use Application #2018-1170: New Century Hotel, LLC is proposing to occupy an existing 3-storey structure (former Sebastian Bldg.) to operate a hotel with a total of 48 units. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 002 B 28 in Tanapag. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

5. Conditional Use Application #2018-1731: Isla Montessori School, Inc. is proposing to occupy two single-storey residential structures to operate a school. This use is classified as "School, Private" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot Nos. 010 K 87 & 010 K 88 along Flores Street in DanDan. This area is zoned a Village Residential.

C. Communication
D. Old Business:
1. Board decisions on the following applications heard during the Public Hearing conducted on April 19, 2018:
   i. Rezone Application #2018-0706: Marianas General Clinic dba Marianas Specialty Referral Hospital/Pacific Fertility Institute (Rezone)
   ii. Conditional Use Application #2018-0748: Share View Travel Corporation (Bed & Breakfast)
2. All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) – "Amusement, Outdoor": Administrator's recommendation & Board decision

E. New Business
1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session
G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

JOE HILL, Esq.
HILL LAW OFFICES
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Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ALBERT R. VITUG, Petitioner, Versus **VICKY PINEDA-VITUG** Respondent.) FCD DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0183) **SUMMONS**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweeme, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 7th day of May, 2018

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
for
First Pacific Investment Group, Inc.

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. First Pacific Investment Group, Inc. is proposing to occupy an existing 7-storey structure (former Plumeria Resort) to operate a hotel with a total of 163 units. This use is classified as "Hotel" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot Nos. 003 B 12 & 003 B 13 in Achugao. This area is zoned as Tourist Resort.

Date: Thursday, May 17, 2018
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office on or before 4:30 pm, May 16, 2018. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201 et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

CANCELLED

Board of Trustees
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9911, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation hereby gives notice that a Special meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. in the CEO's Conference Room 3 located at the Administrative Offices (new wing).

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Determination of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of the Agenda
IV. Public Comments
V. Executive Sessions: To consult with Legal Counsel.
VI. To vote and approve Applications for Privileges for the following individuals:

New Applicants:
1. Dr. Carlo Canepa
2. Dr. Dorothy Chyung
3. Dr. Ali Ghellai
4. Dr. Connie Meredith
5. Dr. William Moss
6. Dr. Katie Hasushi
7. Dr. Taylor Nichols
8. Dr. Karthikeyan Wiswanathan
9. Dr. Rodney Klassen
10. Dr. Dianne Liberty
11. Dr. Bogdan Chumak

Renewal Applicants:
1. Dr. Jeremy Seelinger-Devey

VII. Adjournment

P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 236-8201/2 FAX: (670) 23-8756

'KCHC helps ease hospital's workload'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Kagman Community Health Center has eased the workload of the Commonwealth Health Center, the CNMI's lone hospital, providing healthcare services to the people on the eastern side of Saipan, according to chief executive officer Vince Castro.

He pointed out that people who live in Kagman and its nearby areas now have their medical checkup and other healthcare services at the KCHC instead of going all the way to the hospital on Navy Hill.

"Through our work, we keep a lot of people out of the hospital, out of the [emergency room] when they are sick. It saves the hospital a lot of money," Castro said. "We have to keep providing healthcare services. We can look at other things for us to settle here."

He pointed out that KCHC is a non-profit organization that get most of its funding from the federal government, adding that some hospitals in the U.S. mainland provide funding to federally qualified health centers.

KCHC re-opened last Saturday after nearly two weeks of closure due to an expired land license. They began seeing patients again on Monday.

The Governor's Office, through the Department of Public Lands, in coordination with the CNMI Office of the Attorney General and Governor's Office legal counsel Gil Birnbrich, transferred the land license to KCHC.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) said that CHCC agreeing to turn over the facility turns a new leaf in their partnership with KCHC. "I'm very hopeful that we can have a new beginning in this relationship.

"CHCC and KCHC will have to figure out how to join hands. CHCC plays a major role in [CNMI] healthcare and KCHC is an integral part [of that]. I'm glad that we at the Legislature had the opportunity to spend time and discuss this issue publicly," said Palacios.

"Unfortunately, it was a crisis level situation, but we're happy to see that we've gone beyond that and resolved this issue with the facility," he added.

KCHC-CHCC partnership

KCHC board chair Velma Palacios said they are also looking forward to their continued partnership with the hospital and CHCC. "We also need CHCC, we've always said that. They are the lone hospital and we want to continue this partnership."

"It doesn't mean now that we're operating separately. It doesn't mean that we don't need them [CHCC]. Everybody goes to CHC because they are the only hospital. We need them to also take care of our patients that need emergency services."

She added KCHC, which has been operating for five years now, wouldn't be where they are right now without CHCC's help. "We will always remain partners with CHCC. We could have not done this without them. We were [grant] co-applicants with them."

"We're the child and we have grown. We wanted to be on our own but we still welcome our partnership with CHCC. We will continue our partnership with CHCC," Palacios said.

She said KCHC would also get additional equipment to provide better healthcare services to the people of Kagman and nearby areas. "We're still working in getting our equipment here."

"We have some equipment that were donated by anonymous doctors to our clinic. We're just waiting for a location to start bringing them in. We thank our generous donors," added Palacios.

Budget hearings to begin with DOL, DFEMS, DPS

The House Ways and Means Committee intends to start budget hearings, starting with the Department of Labor, the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, and the Department of Public Services.

Committee chair Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) said his committee would be meeting with DOL today at 9:30am, while DFEMS and DPS are set to meet with the committee on Thursday and Friday.

In a previous interview, Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* that his committee would meet with government agencies that are of utmost priority in the CNMI.

The projection for fiscal year 2019 places the budget at about $285.1 million, with over $167 million available for appropriation. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRFIELD MARKING AND SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP Nos. 3-69-0003-26/XX).**

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2018,** at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, requires the removal and replacement of all airfield markings, procurement and replacement of airfield signage and other miscellaneous work in accordance with the plans and specifications and in compliance with FAA's Advisory Circular No. 150/5340-1L.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in accordance with Item G-100-3.2 (Contract Time) of the General Project Requirement of the Technical Specifications. Liquidated damages shall be in accordance with Item G-100-3.4 (Liquidated Damages) of the General Project Requirements. The contractor shall be assessed with the liquidated damages if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ($150.00)** for each set of plan and specification documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Port Manager's Office at 10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government-wide Debarment and Suspension and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: May 11, 2018

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-18-IFB-015

PROPOSED TOILET FACILITIES FOR ROTA VARIOUS LOCATION

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Departmentof Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Proposed Toilet Facilities for Rota Various Location**, Rota Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **May 9, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **May 25, 2018**, 10:00 a.m. local time at **Rota Mayor Office, Rota**. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **June 5, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-18-IFB-015".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time June 8, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, June 8, 2018, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 8, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **June 19, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, June 22, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on June 8, 2018.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations §70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of One Hundred (US$100.00) for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

‘Labor should have been made to participate in USCIS lottery’

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) believes the CNMI could have balanced its labor and economic needs if the local Department of Labor had been given a chance to participate before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services made any decision in its lottery process.

USCIS last month received more applications than the CW-1 cap of 4,999 and they had used a lottery system to determine the petitions that would be approved.

Demapan said that having the local labor made part of USCIS’ process was one of the issues both CNMI and federal panels recommended for immediate action during the 902 talks a few years ago.

“So, I feel the CNMI Department of Labor should be given a hand to participate and offer a recommendation of maybe categorizing the slots before the lottery. We asked this during the 902 talks,” said Demapan, who was part of the CNMI panel as chairman of the House Federal and Foreign Affairs Committee of the 19th Legislature.

Demapan pointed out that the Guam Labor Department has a participatory hand in dealing with the territory’s worker visas.

“We were asking that the CNMI [DoL] be given the same thing. What we’re asking is not for CNMI [DoL] to be part of the decision-making, but the process that leads to the decision making,” he said.

Extending the CW-1 program beyond 2019 and raising the numerical limit of foreign workers allowed in the CNMI to 18,000 were some of the other recommendations made by the 902 panel.

USCIS has moved forward in processing some of the CW-1 petitions that were drawn in the lottery and Demapan said this would have an adverse impact on the local economy “because we need a lot more than 4,999 [foreign workers].

“The biggest issue here is the lottery does not give us the chance to balance our economic needs. The lottery just drew random positions and workers to fill those positions. We feel that because it was a lottery, there’s no participatory process for the CNMI to work with the federal government to say ‘okay, why don’t we do the most equitable proportionment of the 4,999,” he said.

“That would be the least burden to the economy. By doing the lottery, it was like we could have 999 barbers and 4,000 waiters and no other positions,” Demapan added.

Optimistic on SB 2325

All these problems are expected to disappear if S.B. 2325, introduced by U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources committee chair Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), would pass the House and is signed by President Trump and Demapan is optimistic that would happen.

“It is already in the [U.S.] House but it’s taking longer than expected. Obviously, it is going to happen sooner rather than later. We just have to keep crossing our fingers that it will happen.”

“But we need to be more active. We need to go on full court press to encourage the House to take action and pass this legislation. We cannot just make calls and say it is going to happen on a certain week and it doesn’t happen.”

He added that they remain in direct contact with Murkowski and her counterpart at the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah). “We’re waiting for the [U.S. House] members to make the decision on when to go to a vote. We believe the support is there on this bill.”

MVA joins Guam military fairs

MVA

Marianas Visitors Authority marketing manager Broc Calvo, left, and marketing specialist Thomas Kim promote The Marianas at the 15th Joint Military Travel Fair on May 2, 2018, in Guam.

MVA

Marianas Visitors Authority marketing specialist Thomas Kim, left, shares information about the Marianas at the 15th Joint Military Travel Fair on May 3, 2018, in Guam.

The Marianas Visitors Authority was in Guam this month for in-person marketing targeting military personnel, their families, and the public.

The 15th Annual Joint Military Travel Fairs were conducted and organized by the Morale Welfare and Recreation unit on Guam’s two military bases. The first travel fair was held on May 2, 2018, at Andersen Air Force Base. The second fair was held on May 3, 2018, at the Top o’ the Mar on Nimitz Hill, Guam. Over 760 military personnel and their dependents attended.

“The Marianas was very well represented as a premier family destination only 45 minutes away from Guam. Our information on diving, casino gambling, resorts, World War II, and culture was well-received by the participants,” said MVA marketing manager Broc Calvo. “We are also working on new marketing efforts to improve the Guam military market for the Marianas.”

In partnership this year with PDI and Islander Rent-a-Car, the MVA operated a promotional booth and distributed information about Saipan, Tinian, and Rota at both events. ***(MVA)***

Fordyce named FSA administrator

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced yesterday the appointment of Richard Fordyce to serve as administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency.

In his role, Fordyce will provide leadership for FSA and its mission to support agricultural production across America through a network of over 2,100 county and 50 state offices.

“As a fourth-generation farmer, Richard brings first-hand knowledge and experience to this role,” Perdue said. “I am confident that he will continue to help USDA become the most efficient, effective customer focused agency in the federal government as he leads this customer-focused mission area.”

Fordyce most recently served as state executive director for FSA in Missouri. Prior to his appointment by the Trump administration, Fordyce served as the director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture from 2013 to 2017. In 2015, Fordyce was awarded the Missouri Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award and the Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow Alumnus of the Year.

He and his wife, Renee, have two children and grow soybeans, corn and beef cattle on the family farm. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CAO community report meeting

The Carolinian Affairs Office is holding a community report meeting today, May 16, at the Kagman Youth Center. The CAO is asking members of the Refaluwasch community to attend the meeting. Contact the CAO at (670)234-6385 with any questions or concerns about the meetings. ***(PR)***

NMC graduation will stream live

Family and friends who are off-island or who are not able to attend the Northern Marianas College’s 38th Commencement Exercise on Saturday, May 19, 2018, at the Marianas High School Gymnasium in person can watch the event live online on NMC’s Facebook page. The ceremony will be streamed live at

https://www.facebook.com/NMC.Proa. The live stream will begin at approximately 4pm (Chamorro Standard Time) on Saturday, May 19, and will end at about 6:30pm. ***(PR)***

OVR closed half-day on Thursday

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation office will be closed on Thursday, May 17, 2018, from 7:30am to 12:30pm. There will be a disruption in power services as CUC will be replacing power poles in the vicinity during these times. The office will be open at its regular afternoon hours from 12:30pm to 4:30pm. If there is an urgent matter, call 287-6538. ***(PR)***

Memorial Day proclamation signing

The Office of the Governor’s CNMI Military Veterans Affairs Office would like to invite all military members, families, and the public to a proclamation signing on May 21, 2018, at 9am, at the Office of the Governor conference room for the celebration of Memorial Week on May 21-28 and Memorial Day on Monday, May 28, 2018, 9am, at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi. ***(PR)***

Kagman schools to have PTSA meeting

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that the Kagman cluster of schools will be having a Parents Teachers Students Association meeting on Thursday, May 17, 2018, starting at 5:30pm in the ChaCha Oceanview Middle School cafeteria. Call the school at 237-3921, 664-4100, or 664-3911 for more information. ***(PR)***

Military training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) until today, May 16, from 9am to 10pm. It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Banks are open for public use. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. ***(PR)***

Nominees sought for MINA’s Green Awards

The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance is seeking nominations for this year’s Green Award for presentation at the annual Green Gala event slated for Sept. 14, 2018. The deadline for submission of nominees is June 1, 2018. Awards are given in the following categories, and nominations will be accepted from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota: Environmental Champion Award, Environmental Heroes Award, Green Business of the Year. Submit nominations to rguerrero.mina@gmail.com. For additional information, call 233-7333. ***(PR)***

Scheduled power, water interruptions

There will be two scheduled power interruptions on Saturday, May 19.

The first one will affect Chalan Pale Arnold Road in China Town from 5am to 10pm. Two power poles will be replaced. No water well or wastewater lift station will be affected.

The next power interruption will affect the Delgado Drive on Upper Navy Hill from 7am to 12pm. Five power poles will be replaced. No water well or wastewater lift station will be affected.

The purpose of the power interruptions is to de-energize primary lines to allow the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and its contractor to safely replace seven wooden poles with concrete ones. The project is part of CUC's ongoing Hazard Mitigation Project that entails the replacement of 787 wooden poles with concrete poles throughout Saipan.

Of the 787 wooden poles to be replaced, 477 have been made by CUC and its contractor. Future public advisories indicating the date, time, and location of impending power interruptions will be made accordingly for public notification.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas.

Water outage

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on Thursday, May 17, from 8am to 5pm, affecting Kannat Tabla, Fina Sisu, portions of As Lito and As Perdido, Chalan Laulau Middle Road and Beach Road.

CUC's contractor, AIC Marianas, Inc. will be installing a by-pass connection on the transmission line. Therefore, the water supply will be required to be temporarily terminated to perform the installation. This line supplies the Kannat Tabla tank and new NMC tank. As a result of the new installation, a more reliable water system will be provided to the community. Regular water service hours will resume as scheduled below for the following areas:

- Thursday, May 17, 2018, 5pm: Kannat Tabla, Fina Sisu, portions of As Lito and As Perdido.
- Friday, May 18, 2018, 6am-10am (as per regular water schedule hours): Chalan Laulau (Beach Road and Middle Road).

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

PROSPECTIVE GRADUATES

Congratulations to the bachelor of science In Business Management students of the Northern Marianas College, who recently marked a major personal and professional milestone of their educational journey in their "Sands of Time" ceremony held Monday night at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. The BSBM, students, together with students from other degree programs, will be graduating this Saturday, May 19, 2018 at NMC's 38th Commencement Exercise at the Marianas High School Gymnasium at 4pm.

NMC

Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-18-003
PL-UNGRADED: $ 816.12 B/W
$ 21,219.07 Annual
Position: Assistant Sergeant at Arm
Opening Date: May 16, 2018
Closing Date: June 06, 2018

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan
General Duties:

- Responsible for the safety & security of members of the Legislature;
- Attends all session, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer;
- Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
- Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer, official rules, or other legislative authority;
- Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
- Inspects and operates the chamber's sound/video system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
- Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Must complete a Law Enforcement Academy and undergo and complete yearly required certifications pursuant to CNMI law; and
- May undergo a complete Psychological Evaluation;
- Have knowledge of rules, general procedures, customs and courtesies of the CNMI Legislature and general principles of law enforcement; procedures and techniques of maintaining order, security and protocol of a legislative body; and
- Maintains good working conduct and is willing to work regularly after normal working hours.
- Undergo a pre-employment drug test

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. **All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.**

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed, postmarked no later than the closing date to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-020

REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF ENGINES 8 AND 4 AT POWER PLANT NO.1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Removal and relocation of Engine 8 Alternator and Engine No. 4 Frame & Alternator at Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, of the removal of the engine frame and alternator assemblies from its foundation, dismantling and further relocation to a designated location as detailed in the bid documents. Both engines have been partially dismantled by the plant personnel.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **60 calendar days** from the date of issuance of the Notice to Proceed (NTP).

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non- refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **May 22, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC power plant Conference Room. Prospective Bidders are mandated to attend both Pre-Bid and Site Visit.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-18-020 - Removal and relocation of Engine 8 Alternator and Engine No. 4 Frame & Alternator at Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 15, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 90 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 31, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Project Manager – via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

Embassy move has damaged peace process

The relocation of the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem on Monday may have fulfilled a campaign promise made by Donald J. Trump, and it may please Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other hardliners in his government. But what does it actually accomplish? The most obvious effect is to anger Palestinians and their allies—as the deaths of dozens of protesters at the Gaza border made apparent.

The bloodshed and rising body count should have surprised no one. The leader of Hamas had called for an uprising in response to the U.S. decision, and even more moderate Muslim voices have expressed disappointment that the U.S. would abandon its role as peace negotiator. In all the speeches given Monday morning, there was never a sufficient explanation from Jared Kushner or anyone else representing Washington as to why: Why depart from the position taken by every previous U.S. president that the embassy's move to Jerusalem (promised by law since the 1990s) needed to be settled first in negotiations? Was it to prove that the U.S. is an ally to Israel? Surely, that was never in doubt. Is this now going to convince Palestinian National Authority President Mahmoud Abbas to come to the negotiating table? Not likely. It's just going to harden feelings in the Arab world against the United States.

What did the Trump administration get for this concession? Nothing. Absolutely nothing. You can criticize Barack Obama for not achieving peace with his tougher approach on Israel, but at least he held on to that bargaining chip. The U.S. might not have been a neutral arbiter—its support of Israel has always been strong and rightly so—but now it's credibility as a pro-Israel partner willing to push its ally toward politically unpopular choices is diminished, too.

Might President Trump support some formulation that grants the Palestinians a capital in East Jerusalem? Perhaps. The administration hasn't offered a definitive position on that possibility. The State Department has said that there's still been no final determination of where the U.S. believes Israel's sovereign boundaries should be. Nevertheless, if the U.S. is regarded as completely in the tank for Israel, what role can it have in even promoting that possibility? If the U.S. wants to support Palestinian self-rule and a two-state solution, the relocation of the embassy to West Jerusalem would have been a nice reward to Israel for accepting that prospect. Now, it's gone and U.S. credibility is diminished. Who benefits from that?

Maybe the apple cart needed to be upset. Maybe bold action will inspire leaders to reconsider their current entrenched positions, but we seriously doubt it. President Trump's "boldness" in foreign policy would be a lot more convincing if it didn't always seem to involve a sop to his political base—in this case, evangelical Christians.

The best thing that can be said about the relocation is that it will likely take years to complete.

(c)2018 *The Baltimore Sun*

The goddess of the volcanoes built these islands. She'll do what she wants

By JASMIN IOLANI HAKES
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The windward side of the Big Island of Hawaii doesn't have the resorts of Maui or the Waikiki notoriety of Honolulu. Hilo, population 43,000, is not generally a destination. When my hometown shows up on the world's news tickers, it's because a disaster is on its way—a hurricane or a tsunami, or this week, the earth cracking open and spilling out lava in the middle of a nearby subdivision.

Since I moved to Los Angeles from Hilo, I can only watch from afar. If it's a hurricane, I know my father will treat the sirens as a sign to head for the rocking chair he keeps in his yard, at the edge of the beach—a front-row seat for the show. When the ash started flying 10 days ago, I couldn't get through to my mother. She divorced my father years ago and lives in the town of Volcano, on the edge of the currently erupting Kilauea. (As it turns out, Volcano wasn't evacuated, but my mom was off-island anyway, and safe.)

I've been glued to my phone, devouring news feeds and checking Facebook posts, watching friends and family helping each other to safety, grappling with what happens when your backyard unexpectedly explodes. Meanwhile, Fox News reported: "Oahu residents evacuated."

I'm used to some confusion about my home state, but folks, Hawaii is made up of eight major islands. Oahu is one. The Big Island is another. There are no active volcanoes on Oahu. But on the Big Island, home of Volcanoes National Park, Kilauea has been constantly erupting since 1983. Not that lava spilling into our streets is normal. In my lifetime, it's mostly been where people and homes aren't. Obviously, there are no guarantees.

In the 1990s, a major lava flow disrupted the East Rift Zone and took out the beach where my mother and father got married. I considered it a message from Pele, goddess of the volcanoes, the creator of our island chain. My mother is part Filipino, part Portuguese, part Puerto Rican—a pinch of this, a smidge of that—a local. My father is from California, a haole. Depending on whom you ask, Pele might have had a negative opinion about that.

My father surfed his way over from Venice Beach and has never left. Try as he might to ingratiate himself in the community, throwing himself head first into every beer bottle and onto every fishing boat, he is white, a mainlander, and that means there's no becoming truly local. (That happy ending in the cult movie "North Shore," where the kid from Arizona gets accepted by Da Hui once he learns the art of soul surfing? It only happens in Hollywood.)

My mother was born on Kauai (see—another island), grew up on Oahu and has spent much of her adulthood on the Big Island. She was homecoming queen, voted most likely to marry quickly and have a dozen babies. She ached to escape but was the eldest of five, and a girl, and therefore she wasn't allowed to go very far.

As their only child—with fair skin, blue eyes and burnt-red hair—I was both a local and an outsider, someone who was told to go back where I came from, but someone who had never been anywhere else. I learned to tread lightly. I got dragged around in a shirt that read: "I am NOT a tourist, I live here." I cut my feet on the sharp volcanic edges of Pele's smoking craters, dancing hula.

I'm local enough to know you don't fight Pele. When fissures last opened, local kids wrote notes to her and tied them with ribbons to the chain-link fence of their evacuated school playground. Newcomers, people who had moved in from places where they were used to exerting some influence over their environment, suggested using bulldozers to dig trenches to divert the lava to less populated areas. We laughed. Pele was going to go where she wanted. Hawaii was her island. She gave birth to it. Who were we to tell her where she could go?

Here's what newcomers have to learn: Never turn your back to the ocean. And never disrespect Pele. A few months after I first got my driver's license, my car stalled near Kilauea's Halema'uma'u Crater in the park. I called home for help. Instead of suggesting AAA, my mother told me to get my okole over to the crater to give Pele my regards. I did as directed, and when I returned, my vehicle started right up.

Now it looks like Pele's in no mood for propitiation. The people I know on the Big Island aren't waiting for FEMA to show up to save them. My ex-husband's sister is running an evacuation center in her garage. My mom is hoping the ash hasn't compromised her drinking water and the earthquakes haven't damaged the tank. Everyone is dealing with events as they come, preparing to adjust to their altered landscape.

I'm still glued to my phone, watching. My fear and concern are laced with respect and reverence. The pictures—magnificent, frightening—don't lie. What the locals know, what I was taught as a child, is true: When Pele rises, you don't have a choice. Take a step back and bow your head.

Jasmin Iolani Hakes is working on a memoir about her Hawaii childhood.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Inatotpen Konseptu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune*.*

Isisteman edukasion ta aksepta kumu tutuhun pisun finanague gi famaguon-ta. Poresu na tatnai ta kuestiona sustansiaña. Komprendiyun pot man-ansias hit na u fan ma-eduka famaguonta.

I sistema gaige gi ineyag independente—maisa—ni umatotpe yan finanaguen kuttura—minauleg todu.

I edukasion-mu pot satbasion-mu mismu. I kuttura ilegña bira hau dispues ya un` fan-ayuda gi numesessita ayudu. Gaige este gi tinituhon-ta gi dikiki` na isla ni rinidonduye dañkulun tasi.

Ina`ayuda gi halum familia desde fangualu`an yan peskan tasi. Finacho`chu` satbasion todu gi kinalamten kada unu. Kustumbren yine`ase` ni masimientu gi natibu desde antigu na tiempu.

Namagof pot trabiha este na patte gi kutturata fitme gi pisun familia-ta. Man-geftau yan tana` anaku` kanai-ta gi prohimu ni numesessita ausiliu.

Kontentuyu` lokue` `nai huli`e este na kustumbre gi famaguonhu. Man-listu gi haye numesessita ayudu. Ni unu mañgopbla sa` i nina`en niha sinsiyu na ayudu. Mauleg na kustumbren tanu`!

Uttimu

Gi maposña na talo`anen Damengo `nai gumupu i uttimu na ruplanun Delta Airlines ginen este sige lumiliku` hinasoghu haf` otru para u diñgu i tanu`. Hagas humuyuñg i Japan Airlines dispues pa`gu i Delta.

Guaha `nai in` faisen maisa hamyu haf` mohon na masusede este? Kau inipus tinahuñg ganansian bisnis na man-hanau pat guaha heñuta ni dumulalag i los probes? Adahe na sakrifisiu i Japones desde mediu sisienta siha na sakan. Ta abandona gi finattun Chinu! Estague` pa`gu na kontodu kantun unai malachai matatke.

I inbetsionista (investor) man-aliligau guma` (lugat). Era, ha-aliligau manu `nai propiu para u pega salape`ña ya u guaha mas kinalamten ni benefisiosu gi todu atmos banda. Yangin tita kombida halum `sino ta gastaye otguyu siempre u pakete siha sayonara`. Mañgge na pa`gu ta hahala talañgata para ta ta`lun kumombida halum inbetsonistan Japones?

Silensiu

Lamegai man-maisen haf` na mampus silensiu i tanu`. Hombre guahu huli`e na kulan inipus katma. Kau señat ladañkulu na pagyu mamamaila` gi estrakadan politika? Tiempoña ya esta adumididi` sige halum i finattun afnu`.

Yangin gaige hau pa`gu gi puestu, haf` unu bidamu ni umadelanta fuetsan pottanmonedan familia kumubre nesessidat niha? Guaha 80 pot sientu ennau na subida? Esta i asuntu hagas mogmug pachot i tautau siha gi señgsoñg.

Laña

Mañgarera para i bisinu (Palau yan FSM) `nos kuantos gi manma-elihe man-e`elañan niyog. I tiempu ni magasta manpasehu nahuñg para u kamyu yan u fa` tika dos kostat niyog. Taya` presisu na u fan hanau `nai bula niyog guine!

Sige dispues si Magoo ha guadog haf` sessu ayu na biahen lañan niyog. Era, ma-espipiha laña ni siña muna` fan batbaru siha entalu` pa`gu yan Nobiembre. Mientras tantus, kontodu anineñg niha umespapanta kulan mohon birag. Esta nina` fan mangalolope. Ke lau haf` bidan miyu na mampus hamyu man-espantau?

Ha rekomenda si Lia lañan WD40 pot maprodusen fakteria. "Kontodu gatdun gugat titanus pinila`!" I problema i tai fuetsa na laña kontra chenot espantau. Debi un` konfisat ñaihon haf` umestototba konsensia-mu.

Estau

Matutuhun diniskuten estau politika giya Guahan. Tres asuntu mapresenta gi publiku para uketuñgu`. Dispues u guaha botasion para u ayeg kau statehood, free association pat independente na estau dinisehan niha.

Gi halum `nos kuantus estudiante gi University of Guam manmafaisen haf` na esta mas mauleg gi sineda` niha. Lamayot patte umayeg free association. Ti namanman pot lokue` esta man-fatigau i los probres manmamanda sin konsentimentun niha ginen Washington.

Maseha haf` na estau ma-ayeg siempre u fattu ennau gi dinisehan i tautau haf` na klasen sisteman gobietnu malagu` niha. Bes enkuandu sige mas madiskute bintaha yan disbintahan kada estau. Gi uttimu siempre u fan manbota i tautau haf` sessu sentimentun niha.

Estorian iya Guahan yan Sankattan na Marianas pot mas ke 400 años ni magobietna ni kuattru na nasion. Sumaunau España, Halimaña, Japon yan pa`gu iya America. Namagof i guaha kinalamten para u fan mana`e mañeluta ni direchun niha umayeg haf` para futtunan niha gi papa` sisteman inayeg niha na gobietnu.

Tramposu

`Nai taya` na`ña i tautau ya sessu ñalañg propiu para un` sañgane na u utut i kantidan neñkano`ña? `An taya` na`ña pues haf` para u utut?

Haf` este na abisu gi un` miserapble na popble na u adahe salape`ña `nai ni un` sen i prohimu gi pottanmonedaña. Diberas na heñun tramposu!

Ayu mas yahu umekuñgog i tatan guma` `an hasañgane famaguoña na muñga mañupa mientras ha soppla taduñg chipaña. Dios mihu!

Yahu lokue` umega` un` fotten daibites `an sige ha kanu` manadan fina` mames dispues ilegña, "Adahe hamyu ni asukat sa` ti mauleg!" Dispues, sinparat sige ha sumukegue`. A`saina!

Why I voted no to HB 20-165

By EDWIN K. PROPST
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Edwin K. Propst is a member of the CNMI House of Representatives.

As a public servant leader, I am obligated to share with you my reasons for voting against bills. I can assure you, it is much easier to "go with the flow" and to vote with everyone else on politically popular issues, but I made a pledge to our people that I would always vote my conscience and have remained consistent with that commitment since I first took office. Please allow me to present to you my concerns with House Bill 20-165, a bill which appropriated $1.3 million to Docomo and $7 million to the Judiciary, and why I voted no.

On Friday afternoon on May 4, I had a meeting in my office with three of Docomo's executives. I am grateful for president/CEO Jonathan Kriegel, vice president/general manager Dino Manning, and Docomo ATISA project manager Liezl Balan for taking time out of their busy schedules to address my concerns with regard to the CNMI government's payment to Docomo. By the end of our productive meeting, they had understood my concerns, particularly with the fact that the memorandum of understanding between Gov. Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres and Docomo officials was a non-binding contract; that the MOU itself did not list any financial obligations or amount owed to Docomo by the CNMI government; that even if the MOU were to be considered a contract, it lacked the signature from the CNMI's attorney general, the chief legal officer "representing the Commonwealth in all legal matters" as prescribed in CNMI Constitution Article III Section 11; and that a formal contract is necessary to effectuate the terms and expectations between Docomo and the CNMI government. Mr. Kriegel was gracious enough to agree to draft up a formal contract and was willing to include the attorney general's signature on it.

On Friday, May 11, during our deliberation on H.B. 20-165, I had informed my colleagues of my meeting with Docomo officials and that the CEO was willing to draft a contract which would alleviate much of the legal concerns I raised. I requested we hold off on passing H.B. 20-165 for at least a week so that we could allow Docomo to draft a formal contract and ensure that the attorney general's signature be included along with Gov. Torres and Docomo officials. I had also requested that we call upon the attorney general to weigh in on this matter. There seemed to be no sense of immediate urgency to appropriate the $1.3 million to Docomo. By making a $1.3 million payment to a private company with no formal contract or terms set in place, how can we ensure that we will not be required to make future payments? Without a formal contract, there can be no absolute certainty. The fact is, MOUs do not include the level of detail required to resolve misunderstandings should they arise, and this particular MOU failed to list the CNMI government's $3 million "pledge," or subsidy. When the CNMI government makes a payment to a for-profit corporation that is competing against another company, we must be careful that we do not tip the scale or offer one company an unfair advantage over another. We also must ensure that we have the necessary documents to justify payments to a for-profit corporation and identity the receivables or benefits to our taxpayers.

Perhaps a more difficult decision to vote no was for our Judiciary. As you are well aware, the Judiciary courthouse building known as the Guma' Hustisia has been shut down for two months because of mold and an old, outmoded air-conditioning system that is in dire need of replacement. We know this is a priority and that we must move swiftly, but my concern was that the $7 million appropriation seemed to be an unreasonably large amount with regard to the air-conditioning units. All I asked was for one week so that we could get additional quotes or assessments to make a more accurate appropriation amount. I was concerned that if we went ahead and appropriated $7 million, then we have set a very high ceiling for which bidders in the forthcoming RFP will be aware of, and of course, the proposals will be much higher than had we practiced due diligence and arrived at a more accurate amount.

Please know that I am not an engineer, nor am I an air-conditioning expert, but neither are my colleagues, or anyone in the Judiciary for that matter. I believe this is all the more reason why we should have done our due diligence and worked on getting a more accurate assessment.

While I am no expert, I do know that the Guma' Hustisia is 69,000 square feet, based on what the Guma' Hustisia superintendent told me. I also know of two large businesses that are twice the square footage of the Guma' Hustisia, and both of them purchased state-of-the-art, energy efficient air-conditioning systems for under $1 million, and that included installation. Granted, the Guma' Hustisia may cost more because of the need for mold remediation, but will it cost seven times what two private companies paid, most especially when they are much larger than the Guma' Hustisia? I asked for one week so we could answer these questions and get the best assessment possible so that we could utilize any leftover appropriations for other pressing obligations, whether that be land compensation, or medical referral, or to our police officers and firefighters and other first responders who still do not receive hazard pay despite their hazardous and dangerous jobs that put life and limb on the line every day.

Some critics of mine have accused me of not caring about the people of Tinian and Rota and not caring about our Judiciary and their staff working at the Guma' Hustisia. That is simply not true. I care for all of our people, but I also care about ensuring your taxpayer dollars are spent wisely and efficiently.

Thank you for your time and please feel free to email me at rep.propste@cnmileg.gov.mp or call my office at 664-8829 should you have any questions or concerns.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 10 mph.
▲86° ▼77°

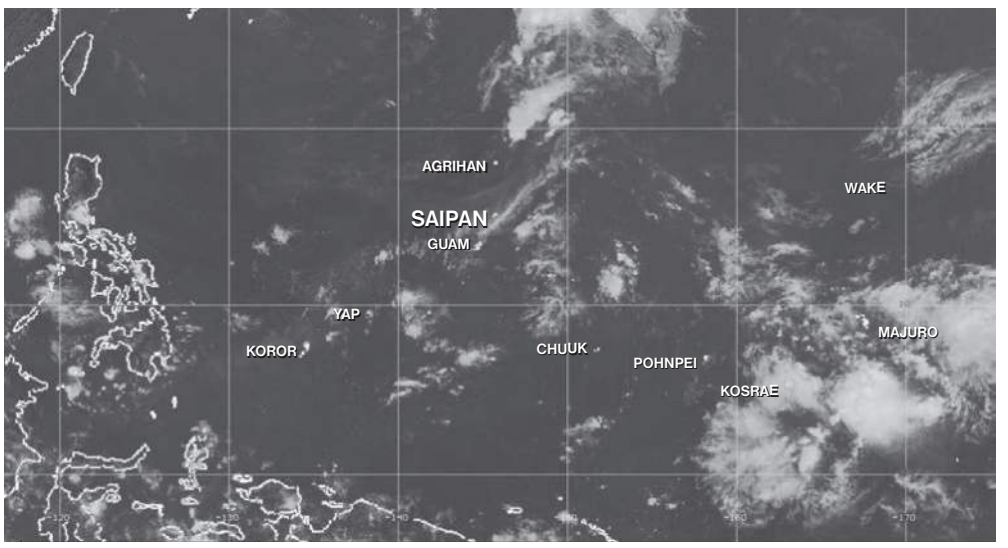
THURSDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. South winds around 10 mph.
▲88° ▼78°

FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼78°

SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼78°

SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:18 AM, TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Seas and winds are expected to remain near their current levels all week. The more interesing forecast problem at this time will be rain and possibly thunder. While much of the convection that was headed toward the Marianas yesterday dissipated, hung onto it in the forecast as all the numerical models are still pretty gung ho about increased rainfall over the Marianas. Just removed the thunderstorms from today as the remaining ones east of us were now significantly farther away, and the winds are most likely a little too strong to allow island convection.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	61° / 55°
Beijing	Showers	77° / 64°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	86° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	83° / 71°
London	Partly Cloudy	66° / 48°
Los Angeles	Sunny	69° / 54°
Manila	Thunderstorm	93° / 81°
Melbourne	Cloudy	61° / 48°
Miami	Thunderstorm	80° / 75°
New York	Cloudy	68° / 57°
Osaka	Sunny	81° / 64°
Paris	Showers	63° / 46°
Busan	Sunny	70° / 63°
Rome	Showers	68° / 55°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	95° / 68°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	60° / 50°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	81° / 64°
Tokyo	Sunny	79° / 63°
Washington, DC	Cloudy	80° / 64°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:09 AM	LOW TIDE	0.86
7:28 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.02
2:31 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.41
9:15 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.05

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:48 AM	6:38 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:38 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM
Sunday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:20 AM	7:26 PM	-
Thursday	7:15 AM	8:28 PM	-
Friday	8:13 AM	9:31 PM	-
Saturday	9:14 AM	10:31 PM	-
Sunday	10:16 AM	11:27 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 8, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Hawaii volcano eruption costs tourism industry millions

AP
In this May 13, 2018 photo released by the U.S. Geological Survey, gases rise from a fissure near Pahoa, Hawaii.

PAHOA, Hawaii (AP)—People nixing vacations to Hawaii's Big island has cost the tourism industry millions of dollars as the top attraction, Kilauea volcano, keeps spewing lava.

Cancellations from May through July have hit at least $5 million, said Ross Birch, executive director of the island's tourism board.

The booking pace for hotels and other activities, such as tours for lava viewing, zip lines and glass bottom boats have fallen 50 percent. A handful of cruise ships have also decided not to come into port even in Kona on the west side of the island, about 80 miles (129 kilometers) away from the volcano.

This is the "first leak we're seeing out of the bucket," Birch said.

Tourism is one of Hawaii's biggest industries and a big part of the local economy. The industry grew the fastest on the Big Island last year compared to other islands in the archipelago, pulling in about $2.5 billion in visitor spending.

Most of the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park remains closed to visitors due to ongoing seismic activity and the possibility of an explosion at the summit.

On Monday, another fissure spewing lava and unhealthy gas opened up, and a crack in the Earth that emerged a day earlier was sending molten rock on a slow run for the ocean, officials said.

Civil defense officials warned vents in the southeast section of the Lanipuna Gardens neighborhood were releasing levels of sulfur dioxide that pose an immediate danger to anyone nearby. The gas may cause choking and make people unable to breathe, the county said as it warned people in the area to leave.

The National Weather Service has warned residents of "light ashfall" throughout the day in Kau, the island's southernmost district, after a burst of volcanic emissions around 9 a.m.

Nearly 20 fissures have opened since the Kilauea volcano started erupting 12 days ago, and officials warn it may soon blow its top with a massive steam eruption that would shoot boulders and ash miles into the sky.

A fissure that opened Sunday led authorities to order 10 people to flee their homes, Hawaii County Managing Director Wil Okabe said. Overall, nearly 2,000 people have been told to evacuate since May 3, and lava has destroyed more than two dozen homes.

The U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said the flow from the crack that emerged Sunday was heading on a path that would take it to the ocean, about 2 miles (3 kilometers) away. No homes or roads were threatened by the flow.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

US retailer Gap sorry for T-shirt's "erroneous" China map

HONG KONG (AP) — U.S. clothing retailer Gap has apologized for selling T-shirts with what it says was an "erroneous" map of China. In a posting on its Chinese social media account late Monday, the company apologized for its "unintentional mistake" and promised to carry out "more rigorous reviews" in the future. The company also said all the shirts in China have been recalled and destroyed. Gap took action after photos began circulating on Chinese social media of a T-shirt with a map that appeared to leave out southern Tibet, the disputed South China Sea and Taiwan, a self-ruled island that Beijing regards as Chinese territory. The photos were reportedly taken at a Gap shop in Canada. Gap is the latest of several companies that have apologized for perceived slights to China's sovereignty.

Amazon to open cashier-less stores in Chicago, San Francisco

NEW YORK (AP)—Amazon, which opened a cashierless store in Seattle this year, plans more locations in Chicago and San Francisco. The company confirmed Monday that Amazon Go stores would open in the two cities, but didn't say when. The store openings were first reported by the San Francisco Chronicle and The Seattle Times. Shoppers enter the stores by scanning a smartphone app. Once inside, they can take soda, salads or anything else off its shelves and just walk out. Amazon's technology, including overhead cameras, keeps track of what they buy and charges customers after they leave. Opening more stores is yet another sign that Amazon is serious about expanding its physical presence. It bought grocer Whole Foods last year, which gave it 470 stores, and has opened more than a dozen bookstores.

Trump defends decision to revisit action on Chinese company

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump on Monday defended his efforts to help a Chinese telecommunications company that violated U.S. sanctions "get back into business, fast," despite criticism from Democrats and Republicans that the company poses a national security risk.

"ZTE, the large Chinese phone company, buys a big percentage of individual parts from U.S. companies," Trump tweeted Monday. "This is also reflective of the larger trade deal we are negotiating with China and my personal relationship with President Xi."

Trump over the weekend unexpectedly tweeted that he and Chinese President Xi Jinping were "working together" to give ZTE "a way to get back into business, fast," saying too many jobs in China were at stake after the U.S. government cut off access to its American suppliers.

The surprising overture to China marked a dramatic departure from Trump's rhetoric toward China during the campaign, when he said he would no longer allow China of "rape our country" and steal U.S. jobs.

The U.S. Commerce Department last month blocked ZTE Corp., a major supplier of telecom networks and smartphones based in southern China, from importing American components for seven years. The U.S. accused ZTE of misleading American regulators over sanctions against North Korea and Iran.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said during an appearance at the National Press Club in Washington Monday that "ZTE did do some inappropriate things. They've admitted to that."

But he added: "The question is: Are there alternative remedies to the one that we had originally put forward? And that's the area we will be exploring very, very promptly." He did not say what other options were being discussed.

Immigration crackdown shifts to employers as audits surge

WASHINGTON (AP)—Immigration officials have sharply increased audits of companies to verify that their employees are authorized to work in the country, signaling the Trump administration's crackdown on illegal immigration is reaching deeper into the workplace to create a "culture of compliance" among employers who rely on immigrant labor.

Expansive plans also have been drafted for a long-term push to scrutinize employers' hiring practices more closely.

Under a 1986 federal law, companies must verify their employees are authorized to work in the United States by reviewing their documents and verifying to the government the employees' identity and work authorization. If employers are found to hire someone without proper documents, the employers may be subject to administrative fines and, in some cases, criminal prosecution.

The recent focus on employers comes after a surge of deportation arrests of workers that started immediately after Trump took office in January 2017. The crackdown is likely to please immigration hawks among Trump's supporters but may alienate industries and companies that rely on immigrant labor.

There were 2,282 employer audits opened between Oct. 1 and May 4, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said Monday, nearly a 60 percent jump from the 1,360 audits opened between October 2016 and September 2017. Many of those reviews were launched following the January ICE audits and employee interviews at about 100 7-Eleven franchises in 17 states.

There were 594 employers arrested on criminal immigration charges from Oct. 1 to May 4, up from 139 during the previous fiscal year, and 610 civil immigration charges during the same period, compared to 172 in the preceding 12-months.

Derek Benner, head of ICE's Homeland Security Investigations unit, told The Associated Press that another nationwide wave of audits planned this summer would push the total "well over" 5,000 by Sept 30. ICE audits peaked at 3,127 in 2013.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
24,899.41	2,730.13	7,411.32
+68.24	+2.41	+8.43
+0.27%	+.088%	+0.11%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3323	Hong Kong Dollar	7.8495	Russian Ruble	61.9595
British Pound	0.7381	Indian Rupee	67.7155	Singapore Dollar	1.3371
Canadian Dollar	1.2818	Japanese Yen	109.96	South Korean Won	1054.22
Chinese Yuan	6.2582	Malaysian Ringgit	3.9095	Swiss Franc	1.0009
Euro	0.8394	New Zealand Dollar	1.4496	Taiwan Dollar	29.3907
		Philippine Peso	51.57	Thailand Baht	31.8915

Nation

Poor People's Campaign launches days of protests around US

Activists converged on state capitals around the U.S. on Monday to begin six weeks of non-violent protests calling for new programs to help the millions of Americans who live in poverty, an overhaul of voting rights laws and other social change.

Reports by police from seven state capitols and Washington, D.C., showed more than 200 people had been arrested or cited during the first day of the so-called Poor People's Campaign. In many instances, police said protesters were cited for blocking traffic. In Washington, the two leaders of the campaign were among the protesters arrested outside the U.S. Capitol. Campaign leaders said the protests would cover 35 states.

A statement from the campaign said the Rev. William Barber and the Rev. Liz Theoharis, its two co-chairmen, were among those arrested outside the U.S. Capitol for standing in the middle of a street. Police had no immediate confirmation of arrests there or a specific number of those stopped.

"We're living in an impoverished democracy," Barber said. "People across the country are standing up against the lie of scarcity. We know that in the richest country in the world, there is no reason for children to go hungry, for the sick to be denied health care and for citizens to have their votes suppressed. Both parties have to be challenged—one for what it does and one for what it doesn't do."

Barber is a North Carolina minister and former president of the state NAACP chapter. Theoharis is co-director of the Kairos Center for Religions, Rights, and Social Justice in New York.

In Missouri, 88 people were issued summonses in Jefferson City for obstructing a lawful police order to move after they blocked a downtown street. Police in Raleigh, North Carolina, led off 49 people after they walked out into the street in front of the legislative building, held hands and refused to depart until each was taken away and cited.

Officers cited 10 protesters at the Iowa Capitol who gathered in and around the staff offices of Gov. Kim Reynolds when they refused to leave the building at the close of business hours.

The campaign cast the protests as a "reignition" of the Poor People's Campaign, the 1968 movement started by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others to challenge racism, poverty and militarism. According to the campaign, protesters will spend the next 40 days engaged in nonviolent action, including the mobilization of voters and holding teach-ins.

The first teach-in is scheduled for Tuesday in Washington. It is to feature Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund and a part of the 1968 campaign. ***(AP)***

Study: Nearly all teachers spend own money on school needs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Nearly all public school teachers report digging into their pockets to pay for school supplies, spending nearly $480 a year, far more than the federal $250 tax deduction available to teachers.

The findings by the National Center of Education Statistics released Tuesday come as teachers across the country are walking out of classrooms to protest low pay and demand pay raises. Helping teachers pay for class supplies was a key demand during the Arizona teachers' strike.

Ninety-four percent of public school teachers say they spent their own money on notebooks, pens and other supplies in the 2014-15 school year without reimbursement, according to the study. The average amount spent was $479. About 44 percent spent $250 or less, while 36 percent spent $251 to $500.

Currently, teachers who spend their personal money on children's classroom needs are able to reduce their taxable income by $250. Teachers pushed back strongly last year when the tax bill passed by the House called for eliminating the deduction altogether. The Senate version of the bill, meanwhile, sought to raise the deduction to $500. In the end, the two chambers reached a compromise, and the deduction remained unchanged.

The study also found that teachers in high-poverty schools were more likely to spend personal money on school supplies. Eighty-six percent of teachers in schools that don't participate in free or reduced lunch school program said they paid for classroom needs, while around 94 to 95 percent of teachers in schools that did participate in the programs said they paid for classroom needs.

Prosecutor: Children tortured for sadistic purposes

FAIRFIELD, Calif. (AP)—Children removed from a squalid California home described acts of intentional abuse that resulted in puncture wounds, burns, bruising and injuries consistent with being shot with a pellet gun, authorities said Monday.

Sharon Henry, chief deputy district attorney for Solano County, said she was "horrified" by the statements from the children and that torture was carried out in the house "for sadistic purposes." She declined to elaborate.

"It literally breaks your heart, and you're outraged by how a parent or anyone could commit those acts," Henry said afterward.

Jonathan Allen, 29, the father of the children, has pleaded not guilty to seven counts of torture and nine counts of felony child abuse. He is being held on $5.2 million bail.

Police in Fairfield said earlier Monday that the 10 children, ages 4 months to 12 years, had been removed from their home March 31 after their mother, Ina Rogers, 30, reported her oldest child was missing.

Police found filthy conditions in the home shared by Rogers and Allen, police Lt. Greg Hurlbut said.

This photo combo of booking mugs provided by the Solano County Sheriff's Office in Fairfield, Calif., shows Jonathan Allen and his wife, Ina Rogers. AP

"Officers located unsafe and unsanitary living conditions including garbage and spoiled food on the floor, animal and human feces and a large amount of debris making areas of the house unpassable," he said.

Rogers was arrested and released after posting $10,000 bail on April 9.

She gave reporters a tour of her house on Monday, denying that her husband had abused the children.

She said she feels she's being judged for having so many children and choosing to home-school them.

The children did not require medical attention when they were removed. But stories about abuse came out gradually over the past six weeks and eight of the children told professionals about incidents dating back several years, authorities said.

Rogers told reporters she's surprised police had leveled the most serious accusations against her husband, as he was not the disciplinarian of the family.

"There's no broken bones, there is no major scars, nothing," Rogers told reporters in front of her house. "My kids get bumped and bruised and scratched because they're kids but that's it."

ACROSS THE NATION

Report finds cases of STDs reach all-time high in California

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The number of cases of sexually transmitted diseases in California reached a record high last year and officials are particularly concerned by a spike in stillbirths due to congenital syphilis, state health authorities said Monday. More than 300,000 cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis were reported in 2017, a 45 percent increase from five years ago, according to data released by the California Department of Public Health. Chlamydia and gonorrhea are most common among people under 30, the report said. Rates of chlamydia are highest among young women, while men account for the majority of syphilis and gonorrhea cases. If left untreated, chlamydia and gonorrhea can lead to infertility, ectopic pregnancy and chronic pelvic pain. Syphilis can result in blindness, hearing loss and neurologic problems.

Sex-related charge dropped against Missouri governor

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens declared victory Monday as prosecutors abruptly dropped a felony invasion-of-privacy charge alleging he had taken a revealing photo of a woman with whom he has acknowledged having an affair. The St. Louis circuit attorney's office said it still plans to pursue the case, either through a special prosecutor or an appointed assistant. But Greitens' attorneys said the case was crumbling under a lack of evidence and doubted any charge would ever be refiled. Missouri's Republican legislative leaders renewed calls for Greitens to resign and confirmed they still will convene Friday in a monthlong special session to consider whether to impeach Greitens in an attempt to remove him from office.

Wisconsin police release new video of scuffle with teen

WAUWATOSA, Wis. (AP)—A Wisconsin police department has released surveillance video footage that shows the events leading up to a scuffle between a white officer and a black teenager that ended with the officer punching the boy. The video shows a faraway view of the mall parking lot in Wauwatosa where the officer approached the 17-year-old Friday after mall security called authorities about a group of males causing a disturbance. In the video released Monday, the officer stops his SUV in the parking lot and goes to approach the teen, who walks away from him. Seconds later the two are in a physical confrontation. The first video recorded by a passer-by on his cellphone showed the confrontation up close and the officer punching the boy. Wauwatosa police say they've started to review the use of force but that the first video shows only a portion of what happened.

Teen who died in van could not communicate properly with 911

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—A 16-year-old Ohio boy who got pinned in the back seat of his minivan and died despite voice-dialing 911 was unable to communicate properly with dispatchers because his phone was in his pocket, according to an initial police investigation. Cincinnati police chief Eliot Isaac presented the results of an internal investigation into the death of Kyle Plush Monday before the City Council's law and safety committee, providing details of the 911 call and the police response. Kyle's phone was in his pocket as he called, and he was using "Siri" caller technology to call 911. Kyle was not able to give back and forth answers to a dispatcher, and the phone disconnected his call.

Missouri man to be released after nearly 20 years in prison

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. (AP)—Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley is recommending that charges be dismissed against a man who has served nearly 20 years in prison for the death of a southeast Missouri woman. Hawley made the recommendation in a letter to Scott County Prosecutor Paul Boyd that David Robinson of Sikeston should be released from the Jefferson City Correctional Center. Robinson has been behind bars since being convicted in 2001 of killing of Sheila Box, who was shot to death after leaving a Sikeston bar she co-owned with $300 in cash and checks. He was sentenced to life in prison without parole. Hawley's decision comes after the Missouri Supreme Court ruled May 1 that Robinson's constitutional rights had been violated during the investigation into Box's death and his trial.

Man pleads guilty in fatal shooting of 4-year-old nephew

CROWN POINT, Ind. (AP)—An Indiana man has pleaded guilty to reckless homicide in connection with the fatal shooting of his 4-year-old nephew. Twenty-three-year-old Lamario Delgado-Gonzalez of Gary entered the plea Monday in Lake Superior Court. He admitted as part of a plea bargain that he shot Garrion Glover Jr. on May 11, 2017, at an East Chicago apartment. He had told police he was in a "(marijuana) coma" and could not explain a bullet hole in the couch where he had been sleeping while the boy watched television. The Lake County Prosecutor's Office agreed to dismiss murder and neglect charges as part of the plea agreement. Relatives of the boy said at the time of the shooting that he had shot himself. The Lake County Coroner's Office later ruled his death a homicide.

Asia

Staid Singapore prepares for historic Trump-Kim summit

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Singapore, a highly manicured city-state shaped by skyscrapers and luxury hotels, is preparing for perhaps the most crucial international diplomatic event of the decade.

The June 12 meeting between tough-talking President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, a brash young ruler with a nuclear arsenal, brings a bombastic set of personalities to the small island nation, which has hosted plenty of important meetings, but nothing as big as this.

Kim wants security and Trump wants Kim to get rid of his nukes. A breakdown in the talks could be costly—a collapsed faith in diplomacy would heighten fears of military conflict on the Korean Peninsula or maybe even spark a destabilizing arms race in Northeast Asia.

Whatever the outcome, the meeting will be a media spectacle. While the venue has yet to be announced, rooms appear to be fully booked on days surrounding the summit at the Shangri-La hotel and the Marina Bay Sands resort, two major properties seen as potential locations for the meeting, judging from reservation services on their websites or online travel companies. Other hotels say they've also seen increased reservations since the summit was announced.

A look at the possible venues, and why Singapore was likely chosen over more obvious locations:

AP
Singapore's financial skyline is seen lining the edge of the Singapore River on Thursday, May 10, 2018, in Singapore.

WHY SINGAPORE?

Singapore appears to be a safe pick for the summit. It has close ties with the United States as a major trade and investment partner, and has also maintained diplomatic relations with North Korea since 1975. While Singapore's tight control over political activities and media has drawn criticism, it's also what makes the country an ideal location for a high-security event like the Trump-Kim summit.

Analysts, meanwhile, say the decision to meet in Singapore may suggest that Trump is entering the talks with tempered expectations.

A summit in Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, would have been a tremendous propaganda coup for Kim, who desperately craves international legitimacy. For Trump, Pyongyang would have been the only place in the world where he would command more attention than Kim, and a dramatic stage to showcase the deal-making skills he speaks so proudly of.

Trump would have claimed a summit in Washington as a major diplomatic win. But Kim could have done the same by presenting the invitation as a symbol of U.S. commitment to a security guarantee for the North.

Settling for Singapore probably shows Trump isn't immediately seeing a significant deal on the table, said Du Hyeogn Cha, a visiting scholar at Seoul's Asan Institute for Policy Studies.

"It was clear Trump was never going to Pyongyang unless he was sure he will return with a deal big enough to silence his critics at home, such as a firm agreement from North Korea for a quick and complete nuclear disarmament," Cha said by phone. "Kim was never going to Washington, D.C., unless the United States promises to lift sanctions against the North upfront."

SHANGRI-LA HOTEL

The Shangri-La appears to be the most obvious fit. The 747-room hotel has a wealth of experience in hosting high-security events, including the historic 2015 summit between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou, the first meeting between leaders of the two sides since they split in 1949.

The hotel also hosts the annual Shangri-La Dialogue, widely seen as Asia's most important security forum, bringing together defense ministers and high-level government officials from across the region.

This year's Shangri-La Dialogue, set for June 1-3, will include a session titled "De-escalating the North Korean crisis." If the Shangri-La hotel is chosen for the Trump-Kim meeting, much of the security preparations might already be in place.

"The hotel has not received confirmation on the venue and is not in a position to make any comments on behalf of the stakeholders involved in the preparation of this summit," Monica Alsagoff, Shangri-La's communications director, said in an email.

Malaysia's jailed opposition icon set to make spectacular return

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia's historic change of government paves the way for an extraordinary comeback for jailed opposition icon Anwar Ibrahim, who played a key role in helping to secure the election victory and has become a prime minister in waiting.

Anwar, 70, is expected to walk free Wednesday after obtaining a royal pardon but his expected return to politics could cause tensions in the new government led by his former foe, Mahathir Mohamad.

Mahathir, who became the world's oldest elected leader at 92 after national elections last week and previously served as prime minister for 22 years until 2003, has agreed to hand the baton to Anwar, but no timing has been given, creating uncertainty about how the two will work together in the interim.

Once a high flyer in the ruling party, Anwar was convicted of homosexual sodomy—and an additional charge of corruption—in 1998 amid a power struggle with Mahathir, at the peak of his authoritarian run in power. The firebrand politician was convicted of sodomy a second time in 2015, this time as his opposition alliance was making gains on the long-ruling coalition.

Anwar and his supporters have long denied the sodomy allegations, saying they were concocted to crush him and his political allies.

Yet rather than give up, Anwar worked from his prison cell to forge a new opposition alliance by ending the two-decade feud with Mahathir—a gamble that paid off when the alliance won May 9 polls and ended the National Front's 60-year grip on power.

After he was sworn in last week as Malaysia's seventh prime minister, Mahathir said the king indicated he would give Anwar a full pardon that will allow him to immediately run for office. Anwar's prison sentence ends June 8, but without a royal pardon he would be barred from politics for five years.

His daughter, lawmaker Nurul Izzah Anwar, said the Pardons Board will meet on Wednesday, after which Anwar is expected to be released. She said the full pardon for her father, who is now in a hospital recovering from shoulder surgery, was sought due to a "miscarriage of justice."

"The pardon timing is fast, and this speaks to the recognition that his conviction was unjust. It is also the recognition that the people have spoken and the royalty are responding to these issues. Mahathir is keeping to his deal," said Bridget Welsh, a political science professor at the John Cabot University in Rome.

Powerful storms kill at least 43 across northern India

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—Powerful winds and rainstorms swept across a crowded swath of northern India, demolishing houses, uprooting trees and killing at least 43 people as the winds turned the skies brown with dust and sand, officials said Monday.

Most of the deaths occurred when wind and falling trees caused buildings to collapse, leaving people buried in the wreckage. In the town of Bareilly, the minaret of a mosque fell on a group of people taking shelter in a neighboring courtyard, killing eight. In another town, one man was killed when he was hit by a billboard that had been blown loose. Along highways, large trucks were pushed over by the winds, crushing cars and motorcycles beneath them.

Less than two weeks ago, similar storms caused 134 deaths and injured another 400. The extreme weather comes amid withering summer heat, and approaching monsoon rains.

"These storms are not unusual at this time of the year," said J.P. Gupta, the meteorological office director for Uttar Pradesh state. "But the wind speed this year is a bit abnormal."

Winds reached speeds 109 kilometers (68 miles) per hour Sunday, officials said. Trains and commuter rail lines were paused and dozens of flights were diverted from New Delhi's international airport as the storm blew into the city.

At least 42 people were killed in sprawling Uttar Pradesh state, which has a population of more than 210 million people, said government spokesman Avnish Awasthi. He said 50 people were injured when uprooted trees fell on houses, with 38 of those people admitted to hospitals. At least one more person was killed in New Delhi.

A large swath of Uttar Pradesh was also without electricity overnight because of broken power lines.

Rajesh Sharma, a senior state official, estimated that more than 120 million people in the state had been affected in some way.

"Saddened by the loss of lives due to storms," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a tweet. "Condolences to the bereaved families. I pray for the speedy recovery of those injured."

Police: Indonesia suicide bombings work of 2 families

SURABAYA, Indonesia (AP)—An Indonesian family brought its 7-year-old daughter to a suicide bomb attack it launched Monday on the police headquarters in the country's second-largest city, authorities said, a day after members of another family conducted coordinated suicide bombings on three city churches that killed 12 people.

National police chief Tito Karnavian said the girl, who was with two of the attackers on a motorcycle, survived being thrown by the blast at Surabaya's police headquarters. The attack killed the four perpetrators. Six civilians and four officers were wounded.

The attack came just hours after police said the family that carried out the church bombings included girls aged 8 and 12.

The flurry of bombings raised concerns that previously beaten-down militant networks in the world's most populous Muslim-majority nation have been reinvigorated by the return of some of the estimated 1,100 Indonesians who went to fight with the Islamic State group in Syria. Experts have warned for several years that when those fighters return, they could pose a significant threat.

IS claimed responsibility for the church bombings in a statement carried by its Aamaq news agency. Karnavian, however, said earlier police comments that the family had spent time in Syria were incorrect.

He said the church bombers and the police headquarters attackers were friends, as were another family whose homemade bombs exploded in their apartment Sunday night.

The use of children in the attacks has been particularly horrifying to people.

"This is terrifying," said Taufik Andrie, executive director of an institute that runs programs to help paroled militants reject extremism and rejoin society. "This is showing how extremist ideology can entrap children. Children have no choice. They can't comprehend the decisions involved."

All told, 25 people have died since Sunday including a total of 13 militants and their children.

World

58 DEAD IN GAZA PROTESTS
as Israel fetes US Embassy move

A Palestinian woman walks through black smoke from burning tires during a protest on the Gaza Strip's border with Israel, Monday, May 14, 2018. AP

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—In a jarring contrast, Israeli forces shot and killed 57 Palestinians and injured more than 2,700 during mass protests Monday along the Gaza border, while just a few miles away Israel and the U.S. held a festive inauguration ceremony for the new American Embassy in contested Jerusalem.

In addition, a baby died from tear gas inhalation, the Gaza Health Ministry said, bringing the overall death toll to 58.

■■■

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Palestinians will be burying their dead Tuesday after 58 people were killed by Israel during Gaza border protests.

Khaled Batch, the head of the grassroots organizing committee of the protests, says Tuesday will be a day for funerals, suggesting there were no plans for border marches. Israeli media reported some tents where protesters have been gathering have been taken down at the border.

Tuesday is what Palestinians call their "nakba" anniversary, or catastrophe marking the creation of Israel 70 years ago.

Gaza health officials say the Palestinian death toll from a day of mass border protests Monday has risen to 58, including 57 people killed by Israeli fire and a baby who died from tear gas inhalation.

■■■

It was by far the deadliest day of cross-border violence since a devastating 2014 war between Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers, and further dimmed the already bleak prospects for President Donald Trump's hoped-for peace plan.

Throughout the day, Gaza protesters set tires ablaze, sending thick plumes of black smoke into the air, and hurled firebombs and stones toward Israeli troops across the border. The Israeli military, which has come under international criticism for using excessive force against unarmed protesters, said Hamas tried to carry out bombing and shooting attacks under the cover of the protests and released video of protesters ripping away parts of the barbed-wire border fence.

Monday's protests culminated more than a month of weekly demonstrations aimed at breaking a crippling Israeli-Egyptian border blockade. But the U.S. Embassy move, bitterly opposed by the Palestinians, added further fuel.

There was barely any mention of the Gaza violence at Monday's lavish inauguration ceremony for the new embassy, an upgraded consular building located just 50 miles (80 kilometers) away. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other top officials joined an American delegation of Trump administration officials and Republican and evangelical Christian supporters.

Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law and chief Mideast adviser, headlined the U.S. delegation with his wife and fellow White House adviser, Ivanka Trump, as well as Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and four Republican senators. Republican super-donor Sheldon Adelson was also present, and evangelical pastors Robert Jeffress and John Hagee delivered blessings.

"A great day for Israel!" Trump tweeted earlier Monday.

In a videotaped address, Trump said the embassy move, a key campaign promise, recognizes the "plain reality" that Jerusalem is Israel's capital. Yet he added the United States "remains fully committed to facilitating a lasting peace agreement."

But Monday's steadily climbing death toll and wall-to-wall condemnation of the embassy move in the Arab world raised new doubts about Trump's ambitions to broker what he called the "deal of the century." More than a year after taking office, Trump's Mideast team has yet to produce a long-promised peace plan.

Trump says recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital acknowledges the reality that Israel's government is located there as well as the ancient Jewish connection to the city. He insists the decision has no impact on future negotiations on the city's final borders.

But to both Israel and the Palestinians, the American gesture is widely seen as siding with Israel on the most sensitive issue in their long-standing conflict.

"What a glorious day. Remember this moment. This is history," Netanyahu told the inauguration ceremony.

"You can only build peace on truth, and the truth is that Jerusalem has been and will always be the capital of the Jewish people, the capital of the Jewish state," he added.

The Palestinians, who seek east Jerusalem as their capital, have cut off ties with the Trump administration and say the U.S. is unfit to serve as a mediator. Israel captured east Jerusalem in the 1967 Mideast war and annexed the area in a move that is not internationally recognized.

Hezbollah says 'new phase' in war with Israel after strikes

BEIRUT (AP)—The leader of Lebanon's Hezbollah said Monday a barrage of rockets from Syria against Israeli forces in the occupied Goal Heights last week opens up "a new phase" in the conflict, warning that Israel proper could be the next target for retaliation.

Hassan Nasrallah said that Israel has been informed through an international body that retaliation inside Israel will take place if it crosses "a red line" in Syria, without providing specifics.

Israel on Thursday unleashed a heavy bombardment against what it said were Iranian military installations in Syria on Thursday. It said it was retaliation for an Iranian rocket barrage on its positions in the Golan. It was the most serious military confrontation between the two bitter enemies to date.

In a televised speech to a rally in Beirut, Nasrallah did not say who carried out the rocket fire into the Golan. He called it retaliation for "Israel's continued aggression against Syria." In past weeks, Israel is believed to have carried out a number of strikes against military bases in Syria, killing Iranian and Syrian troops.

"You as an enemy will not be able to continue to target Syria and the axis of resistance without retaliation," he said, adding, "This qualitative rocket attack establishes for a complete new phase" in the conflict with Israel. The axis of resistance is a reference to Iran and its allies, Syria, Hezbollah and other allied armed groups in the region.

Nasrallah said Israel has downplayed its losses in the strikes, in which he said 55 rockets hit military targets in the Golan for the first time since Israel and Syria had reached a cease fire and a disengagement agreement in 1974. Israel had said it downed 20 rockets coming from Syria.

He said Israel's retaliation mostly hit a number of posts in Syria that had already been evacuated. He said Syrian air defenses downed a number of Israel's missiles.

He said the barrage "broke the prestige" of Israel and that the attack, Israel's response and its response against Gaza protests on Monday show it is far from ready to face its opponents.

"If anyone is afraid of war in the region, it is Israel," Nasrallah said.

He also blasted Bahrain's foreign minister, calling him an "idiot" and a "traitor" for supporting Israel's right to respond to the barrage of rockets coming from Syria.

Nasrallah called the creation of Israel, which marks 70 years of its creation Monday, a "mark of shame" for humanity.

He said the pressure from Israel and the United States on Iran is not just because of its nuclear program, but is in essence because of its support to the Palestinians and other "resistance" groups. He urged the Palestinians not to accept any new U.S. peace plans.

Focus

US embassy opens in Jerusalem as Gaza rages

Palestinian protesters burn tires near the Israeli border fence, east of Khan Younis, in the Gaza Strip, Monday, May 14, 2018. Thousands of Palestinians are protesting near Gaza's border with Israel, as Israel prepared for the festive inauguration of a new U.S. Embassy in contested Jerusalem. AP

JERUSALEM (AP)—The United States opened its new embassy in Jerusalem Monday with a high-powered American presidential delegation joining Israel's top leadership in a celebration of their countries' friendship and the city's history as the ancient capital of the Jewish people.

About 800 well-dressed guests packed a podium outside the former U.S. Consulate compound in southeastern Jerusalem that was rededicated as the new embassy, for the time being until a permanent site is determined.

Guests were handed red and blue baseball caps marking the occasion, the U.S. Marines presented their colors and a large video screen featured the American flag and a montage of Israeli and U.S. leaders meeting throughout the years.

For Israelis, it marked the first official recognition of their capital after 70 years. But the move infuriated Palestinians, who seek the eastern part of the city that Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast war as their future capital. Also absent were the ambassadors of many European nations that opposed the move, adhering to the stance that embassies should stay in Tel Aviv until Jerusalem's final status is resolved.

Here's a look at the highlights from the event:

WHAT GAZA?

The gala gathering came in the shadow of the deadliest day of violence along the Israel-Gaza border since the 2014 war, where Israeli soldiers shot and killed more than 50 Palestinians during mass protests.

The Gaza bloodshed taking place just 70 kilometers (45 miles) away seemed the furthest thing from anyone's mind at the feel-good ceremony in Jerusalem, focused squarely on the city's past, present and future. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made a brief mention of the Israeli military and "our brave soldiers who are protecting the border with Israel as we speak today."

Jared Kushner, President Donald Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, also referred to the events, saying, "As we have seen from the protests of the last month and even today, those provoking violence are part of the problem and not part of the solution."

TRUMP LOVEFEST

The American delegation was led by Deputy Secretary of State John Sullivan and included Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, four Republican senators, Kushner and Trump's daughter and senior adviser Ivanka.

But it was all about Trump, whose video address drew the largest cheers and chants of "Trump, Trump, Trump." The square at the entrance to the new embassy was named United States Square—in his honor—and large billboards lined the route there thanking Trump for "making Israel great." Some guests were even spotted wearing "Make American Great Again" hats.

Nearly every speaker singled out the president with praise for upending decades of U.S. policy and fulfilling one of his key campaign promises of recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital and moving the American embassy there from Tel Aviv. Most compared it favorably with President Harry Truman's decision to recognize Israel after it declared independence in 1948.

"President Trump, by recognizing history you have made history," Netanyahu said. "Thank you, President Trump, for having the courage to keep your promises. Thank you, President Trump, and thank you all for making the alliance between American and Israel stronger than ever."

THE ROYAL COUPLE

Of all the dignitaries, Kushner and Ivanka attracted the most attention. Their arrival to Israel was widely reported in the local media and both played a part in the embassy's opening ceremony. Ivanka, in an off-white outfit, unveiled the embassy seal and dedication plaque while her husband delivered one of the keynote addresses.

"While presidents before him have backed down from their pledge to the move the American Embassy once in office, this president delivered. Because when President Trump makes a promise, he keeps it," Kushner said. "The United States stands with Israel because we know it is the right thing to do."

CHRISTIANS GALORE

As significant as the event was for many Jews, it appeared to be equally important for Israel's Christian allies. The invitation-only audience seemed to have as many Christians as Jews, and prominent evangelical Christian allies took part in the ceremony.

Pastor Robert Jeffress, leader of a Dallas-area Baptist church and a spiritual adviser to Trump, delivered the opening blessing, and Pastor John Hagee gave the closing blessing.

Senate candidate Mitt Romney of Utah said Jeffress shouldn't be giving the prayer because he's a "religious bigot." Jeffress has drawn criticism for calling Islam and Mormonism "a heresy from the pit of hell" and saying Jews "can't be saved."

Jeffress told The Associated Press before the blessing that some of the things attributed to him have been taken out of context.

"I think it's sad that Mitt feels the need to lash out in bitterness and anger on such a historic day but it's not going to overshadow what is happening here," he said. "For 2,000 years, historic Christianity has taught that salvation is through Christ alone."

The evangelical embrace has drawn criticism from some quarters, especially liberal American Jews who oppose the conservative Christian agenda. Evangelicals say their affinity stems from Christianity's Jewish roots, and some view Israel's establishment as fulfilling biblical prophecy.

"It's a dream come true," said Shari Dollinger, the co-executive director of Hagee's Christians United For Israel. "This is the fulfillment of years of Jewish and Christian prayer."

Good Housekeeping

Don't let your home's infrastructure crumble

By DEBBIE CARLSON
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

It's no secret that U.S. infrastructure is crumbling, but is your home's infrastructure in good shape?

Maintaining key features that make a home livable will save money down the road and may even fall under critical life-safety issues. These home maintenance checkups aren't sexy or fun, but they are necessary to keep a house in top shape.

While everything in a house eventually needs to be replaced, home experts flagged their top three infrastructure areas to maintain.

The home's structure. A home's roof, foundation and frame are equally critical to a livable home. Pat Knight, training, licensing and inspection support manager of WIN Home Inspection, a national home inspection franchise, said to keep an eye on the roof as the seasons change, making sure the surface is free from debris and there is no damage. Get gutters cleaned, and make sure they're draining properly away from the home. Fall is a good time to get your gutters cleaned.

Checking the roof can be as simple as using a pair of binoculars from the yard, or it could mean hiring a company to inspect for potential damage up close.

"Deferred maintenance can drastically reduce the life expectancy of the roof, and replacement is expensive," he said.

Keep an eye on the home's bottom too. Angie Hicks, founder of Angie's List, a home services directory, says the fall season is a great time to check the home's foundation.

"If there's too much water—or too little—it will become the No. 1 cause for giving your foundation a shakeup," she said.

It can be difficult to get the moisture content right consistently, so Hicks gave a few tips. Ensure proper drainage away from the structure's surface, which can otherwise compromise the foundation's integrity. Subsurface or French drains can help in regions where too little moisture is an issue, as can a strategic sprinkler system that prevents extreme drying/shrinking of the surrounding soil.

While looking at the foundation, look out for insects like carpenter ants or termites, especially in homes with wooden frames, said Beverley Kruskol, owner of M.Y. Pacific Building, a general contractor who has worked with high-end renovations, including for Mario Batali's restaurants in Los Angeles.

With climate change, insects like termites can now be a problem in areas that previously never had problems with these bugs. Termites cause significant damage and can migrate from other homes, too, she said.

Heating/cooling system. Having the home's HVAC system maintained yearly by a qualified company will prevent major breakdowns happening at just the wrong time, said Knight and Hicks.

"Waiting until you need a repair will cost you dearly, especially if there is a cold snap or a heat wave," Knight said.

How to rid your floor of stuck-on rubber rug padding

By ALAN J. HEAVENS
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Question: My parents have a 9-foot-by-12-foot area rug, which is in excellent condition, in their bedroom.

Under the rug is green foam-rubber padding that has become as hard as a rock over the years and has stuck to the hardwood flooring like paint.

I have tried a plastic scraper with no luck. I used a 2-inch-wide metal scraper that removes the rubber but is time-consuming.

I have not scratched or marred the hardwood flooring. Is there an easier method?

Answer: As strange as it seems, when I received your question, I took a look under our living room rug to check the condition of the padding there. Though some of it had crumbled, it wasn't sticking to the floor.

Checking on the internet with the usual grain of salt, I discovered that the metal-blade scraper was the most-touted method of removal without scratching, even though it took one woman 26 hours.

She didn't say whether this was 26 hours at once without a break, or 26 hours over a period of months or years.

Angie's List, which said it asked professionals, recommended using such solvents as paint thinner or soapy water to loosen the glued padding and then scraping or sanding it off.

Frankly, given indoor air-quality issues, I'd go with the soapy water, but not a lot, because you might cause the floor to warp.

There were some YouTube videos available showing a variety of ways to remove glued-on padding, but most involved projects that required removal before a new floor was installed, so the condition of the hardwood floor underneath was not an issue.

These are all sources available to you by Googling, but here's my advice:

A job worth doing is one that's worth doing well. If the metal scraper is working, no matter how time-consuming it is, go with it.

As far as using paint thinner or soapy water, one requires proper ventilation, including a mask, and the right clothing for protection.

If the job is important to you, and you are pressed for time, it might be best to contact a professional to do it.

Money well-spent.

Five design trends for wood floors

PIXABAY

Wood flooring is a classic look for any home, but there are trends to consider when installing a new floor or refinishing an existing one.

By MARION J. LOUGHEED
ANGIE'S LIST

Wood flooring is a classic look for any home, but there are trends to consider when installing a new floor or refinishing an existing one:

1. Wide floor boards

If you have smaller rooms, consider the trend toward wider planks, which create the illusion of more space. While wide boards can work in any room, the look is especially nice for cozier rooms.

2. Earth-friendly wood

Sustainable products continue to be popular, including bamboo and cork. Bear in mind that these flooring materials aren't as tough as hardwood, and will need different maintenance and care. They may however, give your rooms a fresh, natural appeal.

For more information about bamboo and other flooring options, see the Angie's List Guide to Wood Floor Alternatives.

The popularity of exotic woods has contributed to global deforestation. An alternative is to have floors made of wood reclaimed from old buildings or other sources. In the case of oak and some other hardwoods, reclaimed wood may make a better floor, since wood in older buildings often came from heartwood.

3. Color choice

Darker tones, such as deep cherry and mahogany, remain popular, and help create a sense of opulence and grandeur associated with classic comfort. Lighter colors contribute to a more casual, natural look. Ask your flooring professional to show you the latest options in wood floor color.

4. Handscraped hardwood

At one time, wood floorboards routinely bore the marks of having been scraped by tools to create as smooth a finish as possible. Today, handscraped and distressed floors are becoming popular, and there are a variety of ways to achieve the look, which can add cost.

5. Prefinished flooring

Some wood flooring now comes precoated with a clear finish of tiny metal crystals that create a solid, protective layer. Such prefinishing allows floors to be quickly ready for foot traffic after installation.

For more information about wood floors, see the Angie's List Guide to Hardwood Flooring. And when considering a new floor or having an existing one refinished, check Angie's List for local consumer reviews on wood flooring professionals, who are among more than 550 service providers on the List.

Start planning before building a patio

By TOM LANGE
ANGIE'S LIST

Before paying the deposit to build a new patio, take a moment and step outside.

Look at the paths leading to the backyard. Any trees or bushes blocking access might require trimming or removal to make room for equipment needed for the job.

Also, which way is the wind blowing? That's important to know if you plan to add a barbecue grill, outdoor kitchen or fire pit. Guests won't enjoy spending an evening with smoke in their faces.

The key to building a patio that holds up for years involves creating a detailed plan before breaking ground. A qualified contractor can design that plan, and answer questions you might not think to ask, such as why wind direction matters.

"I've never had one person think (about) which way the wind blows," says Robert Harmon, president of Elite Home Remodeling in Columbus, Ohio.

FINDING AND WORKING WITH A PATIO CONTRACTOR

The right patio contractor should listen to your needs, and create a plan or suggest alternatives. They can also anticipate potential problems before construction begins.

For example, building a patio facing south or west means the sun will bear down in the afternoon, which could cause problems if you plan to regularly cook out in the evening.

A skilled patio contractor can suggest a new spot for the patio, or explain how a pergola or awning provides shade, Harmon says.

"The contractor should be providing different options," Harmon says.

Also, talk with prospective contractors about how the patio could be used in the future.

If you hope to eventually build an outdoor kitchen or connect a grill to natural gas, consider adding a natural gas line as part of the project. Otherwise, you might have to break apart and rebuild the patio in the future.

Be cautious of contractors who try to talk you into a vastly different project without providing an explanation, or quote a price without providing specifics about the job.

Vet potential contractors by looking at their previous work. Then, ask about the cost, time and types of labor involved.

HARDSCAPING OFTEN LEADS TO LANDSCAPING

Before construction begins, take your lawn and landscaping into consideration.

Contractors likely won't be driving concrete trucks into your backyard, but they will use heavy equipment to help with digging and gravel placement. This equipment can range between six and eight feet wide and weigh 5,000 and 10,000 pounds, says Will Mattingly, head of operations for Mattingly Concrete Inc. in Indianapolis.

Making enough room for that equipment often means clearing trees, bushes and other items from the path to the backyard. Laying plywood strips can limit damage to the lawn, though grass seed, straw or topsoil might also be needed to repair damaged sections of grass, Mattingly and Harmon say.

"Typically, with almost any patio project, a small- to medium-size landscaping project should be anticipated when the project is complete," Mattingly says.

Life & Style

Markle seeks respect for dad after report he'll skip wedding

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are requesting "understanding and respect" for Markle's father after a celebrity news site reported he would not attend the royal wedding to walk his daughter down the aisle, Kensington Palace said Monday night.

A palace statement on "this difficult situation" did not confirm the TMZ report that Thomas Markle had decided not to attend Saturday's wedding at St. George's Chapel on the grounds of Windsor Castle. The palace said earlier it would not comment on the report, and its statement did not clarify if the bride's father would or would not be at the wedding.

"This is a deeply personal moment for Ms. Markle in the days before her wedding," the palace statement said. "She and Prince Harry ask again for understanding and respect to be extended to Mr. Markle in this difficult situation."

TMZ said Thomas Markle was upset over the way his decision to have staged paparazzi photos taken of him preparing for the wedding has been received and decided to miss the wedding to avoid embarrassing his daughter and the royal family.

The site also said he suffered a heart attack less than a week ago, and was returning to the hospital Monday with more chest pains.

In this file photo dated Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018, Britain›s Prince Harry and his fiancee Meghan Markle arrive at Edinburgh Castle in Edinburgh, Scotland. AP

The palace had announced last week that Thomas Markle and his ex-wife, Doria Ragland, would play important roles in the wedding. Both were expected to meet Queen Elizabeth II and other senior royals in the days before the wedding.

Thomas Markle and Ragland divorced when their daughter was 6-years-old, but they both played an active role raising her.

He spent many years supervising the lighting and camera crew for the "Married...With Children" television show and often brought young Meghan to the set at Sunset Gower Studios. Since retired, he has been living in Mexico. The Associated Press has been unable to reach him for comment.

Thomas Markle was set to walk Meghan down the aisle during the church ceremony, and Ragland plans to ride to the chapel with her daughter. Both were to be entertained this week by the queen and other senior royals, including Prince Charles and Prince William.

TMZ said the father had a change of heart over the weekend after the British press reported he was paid to pose for photos that showed him getting measured for his wedding suit and making other preparations.

According to TMZ, he told the website he regretted allowing the pictures to be taken and acknowledged they looked "stupid." The website reported that he said money was not his primary motivation for agreeing to be photographed and he was opting to miss the wedding to avoid embarrassing his daughter and the royal family.

Meghan Markle's half-sister, Samantha, tweeted Monday that she is to blame for the photo debacle.

"The bad press over my father doing staged photos is my fault," she tweeted. "The media was unfairly making him look bad so I suggested he do positive photos for his benefit and the benefit of the royal family."

Meghan Markle is estranged from her half-sister, who has not been expected to attend the nuptials, and from her half-brother.

Harry and Markle have invited 600 guests to the wedding, which will be followed by a gala reception hosted by the queen.

Women in a London souvenir shop said the situation with Markle's father is a shame, but they are sure the couple will make the best of it.

"She's very close to her mother, though, isn't she? So perhaps her mama gives her away," said Joan Budgin.

"It will be all right," said Dilia Rigley.

"It will be a lovely day," said Budgin.

Margot Kidder, Lois Lane in the 'Superman' franchise, dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Margot Kidder, the Canadian actress who starred as a salty and cynical Lois Lane opposite Christopher Reeve in the "Superman" film franchise of the 1970s and 1980s, has died. She was 69.

Kidder's manager Camilla Fluxman Pines said she died peacefully in her sleep on Sunday. Police in Livingston, Montana, said in a statement that officers were called to Kidder's home, where they found her dead. An autopsy will be performed to determine the cause, but no foul play is suspected.

In this Oct. 3, 2000 file photo, actress Margot Kidder, who dated former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, arrives for his funeral at Notre-Dame Basilica in Montreal, Quebec. AP

"Superman," directed by Richard Donner and released in 1978, was a superhero blockbuster two decades before comic book movies became the norm at the top of the box office. Makers of today's Marvel and D.C. films cite "Superman" as an essential inspiration.

Kidder, as ace reporter Lane, was a salty, sexually savvy adult who played off of the boyish, farm-raised charm of Reeve's Clark Kent, though her dogged journalism constantly got her into dangerous scrapes that required old-fashioned rescues.

Kidder had many of the movies' most memorable lines, including "You've got me?! Who's got you?!" when she first encountered the costumed hero as she and a helicopter plunged from the top of a Metropolis building.

Marvel Studios President Kevin Feige called the moment "the best cinematic superhero save in the history of film" at an Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences event honoring Donner last year.

Kidder and Reeve were relative unknowns when they got their leading parts in the first of the films in 1978, which also included big names Gene Hackman and Marlon Brando.

Kidder and Reeve went on to star in three more "Superman" movies, the fourth and last in 1987.

She said she and Reeve, who was paralyzed in 1995 by a horsing accident, were like brother and sister, both in their affection and animosity for each other.

"We quarreled all the time," Kidder said May 9 in an interview on radio station WWJ in Detroit, where she had been scheduled to appear at Motor City Comic Con later this month. "The crew would be embarrassed. They would look away. Then we'd play chess or something because we were also really good friends."

Both would remain known almost entirely for their "Superman" roles and struggled to find other major parts. Reeve died in 2004.

Kidder also had a small part in 1975's "The Great Waldo Pepper" with Robert Redford, and starred as conjoined twins in Brian De Palma's 1973 "Sisters," and as the mother of a terrorized family opposite James Brolin in 1979's "The Amityville Horror."

Mark Hamill was among those tweeting tributes to Kidder on Monday.

"On-screen she was magic," the "Star Wars" actor said. "Off-screen she was one of the kindest, sweetest, most caring woman I've ever known."

B-movie buffs say 1974's "Black Christmas," with Kidder as a sorority sister, is a must-watch.

"It introduced some elements that are now genre tropes and she's fantastic in it," comedian and actor Kumail Nanjiani said on Twitter Monday.

Kidder had a debilitating car accident in 1990 that left her badly in debt, confined her to a wheelchair for most of two years and worsened the mental illness she had struggled with for much of her life.

That struggle became public in 1996 when she was found dazed and filthy in a yard not far from the studio where she once filmed parts of "Superman."

She fought through her illness and continued working, however, appearing in small films and television shows and amassing credits until 2017, most notably "R.L. Stine's the Haunting Hour," which earned her a Daytime Emmy Award as outstanding performer in a kids' series in 2015.

"I don't act much anymore unless I'm broke, and then I'll take a job," she told the Detroit radio station with a laugh.

She spent the last decades of her life living in Montana and engaging in political activism, including protesting the U.S. military action in Iraq.

Kidder was born in Yellowknife, Canada, and graduated from a Toronto boarding school before pursuing acting.

She dated then-Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in the 1980s, calling him the "love of my life, my true love" in her radio interview last week.

Kidder was married and divorced three times, including a brief marriage to actor John Heard, and is survived by a daughter, Maggie McGuane.

Trump calls leakers 'cowards' after aide's remark on McCain

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump called West Wing leakers "traitors and cowards" on Monday as a dustup over a White House aide's crass remark about Arizona Sen. John McCain extended into a fifth day.

In a Monday afternoon tweet, Trump said the "leaks coming out of the White House are a massive over exaggeration put out by the Fake News Media in order to make us look as bad as possible."

He added of the leakers: "We will find out who they are!"

During a closed-door meeting last week, Trump communications aide Kelly Sadler dismissed McCain's opposition to the president's CIA nominee by saying of the Arizona Republican: "He's dying anyway." The 81-year-old McCain was diagnosed in July with glioblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer.

White House spokesman Raj Shah said Monday that Sadler had been "dealt with internally." But he refused to say how.

Pressed repeatedly on the issue at a briefing, Shah said Sadler apologized privately to the McCain family and still remains in her position.

But Shah, who led the meeting in which Sadler made the comment, declined to say whether any disciplinary steps had been taken. He said he could not discuss how the situation was "addressed internally" because then it would no longer be internal.

McCain left Washington in December and few expect him to return.

Sadler called the senator's daughter Meghan McCain, a co-host of ABC's "The View," to apologize last week. Meghan McCain told ABC News that, during their conversation, she'd asked Sadler to apologize publicly and that Sadler had agreed.

"I have not spoken to her since and I assume that it will never come," Meghan McCain told ABC.

Numerous lawmakers have called on the White House to apologize, including No. 2 Senate GOP Leader John Cornyn of Texas, who told the The Associated Press on Monday: "The person who said it should apologize. It's totally inappropriate."

No. 3 Senate GOP leader John Thune of South Dakota said the White House could have handled the incident better.

"The smart thing to do would have been five days ago to just nip it in the bud and come out and apologize for it," he said.

White House officials have condemned the leak of the private conversation, and some have expressed their support for Sadler.

In a Senate speech Monday, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell steered clear of Sadler's comment but praised the ailing Republican after visiting with him over the weekend in Arizona.

"I told him we miss him," McConnell said in a Senate speech late Monday. "I was confident I was speaking for everybody in the Senate in conveying our deepest respects for him and all he's done for the county in his extraordinary life."

McCain remains outspoken on political and policy debates. McConnell says the beloved, if not "smart-alecky," colleague had plenty to say about work during the visit.

The comment by Sadler came after McCain, a Navy pilot who was beaten in captivity during the Vietnam War, urged his fellow senators to reject Trump's nominee for CIA director, Gina Haspel. He said he believes she's a patriot who loves the country but "her refusal to acknowledge torture's immorality is disqualifying."

Trump and McCain have had a difficult relationship.

As a GOP presidential candidate in 2015, Trump said McCain was "not a war hero" because he was captured in Vietnam, adding, "I like people who weren't captured."

Last July, McCain became the deciding vote against the GOP health care repeal with a dramatic thumbs-down. Trump later told the Conservative Political Action Conference that "except for one Senator, who came into a room at three o'clock in the morning and went like that" —Trump gave a thumbs-down—"we would have had health care (reform), too."

Insane as ever, 'Deadpool 2' doesn't disappoint

This image released by Twentieth Century Fox shows Ryan Reynolds in a scene from "Deadpool 2." AP

By MARK KENNEDY
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

At a recent screening of "Deadpool 2," the audience didn't get up when the end credits came up, patiently sitting through the scrolling names of visual effects supervisors and lighting specialists. Real "Deadpool" fans know to stick around until the ushers toss them out.

That's because the filmmakers aren't content with containing their sprawling, anarchic and subversive hero in any conventional box. No, in the world of Deadpool, even the boring end credits are studded with jokes and teases.

So hold onto your seats as Ryan Reynolds once more dons the red suit and katana swords for this saucy, overstuffed and very entertaining sequel to the 2016 massive hit "Deadpool," which became the second-highest grossing R-rated film domestically after "The Passion of the Christ." How do we know that? Deadpool happily brags about it in the new film, continuing his breaking-the-fourth-wall humor.

Just some of the other things that get derided this time are "Yentl," ''Frozen," ''Stranger Things," Wolverine, Jared Kushner, cultural appropriation, Brad Pitt, the Norwegian band A-ha, "Basic Instinct," ''Robocop," fanny packs, "Say Anything," dubstep, "Sharknado" and Reynolds himself, who mocks his disastrous earlier decision to play Green Lantern.

"Deadpool 2" is as gruesome and violent as the first, but perhaps the biggest victim is the very concept of superhero movies. Our anti-hero adores mocking the moral clarity, earnestness and predictable stunts of his distant cousins. And, as a Marvel property, he especially delights in lampooning D.C. Comics. "So dark," Deadpool says to another superhero. "Are you sure you're not from the DC Universe?"

In this film, which reunites the original writing team of Rhett Reese and Paul Warnick, we begin by finding our unkillable mercenary in the same domestic bliss where we left him. But if "Deadpool" was an origin story, "Deadpool 2" is a quest tale and our hero this time encounters the time traveling soldier Cable (Josh Brolin), a motley crew of mutants he calls X-Force — "Isn't that a little derivative?" someone asks snarkily — and various superheroes and mutants, all set to a lively soundtrack that includes Air Supply, Peter Gabriel, "Annie" and an original song with filthy lyrics. If something can be oddly sweet while heads are being decapitated, it's this film.

Some favorites from the first film are back — some only briefly — such as housemate Leslie Uggams, girlfriend Morena Baccarin and cab driver Karan Soni. The new characters don't have time to make much of an impression, except for Zazie Beetz from "Atlanta" who has a great turn as Domino, a strong, sardonic superhero who relies on luck. (Someone please write her own film.)

Deadpool, of course, helps us along the film's convoluted plot with such post-modern cracks as "Big CGI fight coming up!" or the put-down, "That's just lazy writing" or, after a cool sequence, "Tell me they got that in slow motion." Director David Leitch replaces Tim Miller but there's been no noticeable change in tone or corrosion in the franchise's terrific special effects. If anything, the surprising success of the original has resulted in more money and more insane sequences, like a chase sequence with a truck convoy and a bizarre scene when Deadpool's legs regrow after he is cut in half, giving him baby limbs for a time.

Reynolds is once again at his arch and nihilist best here, while acting and jumping in so much facial prosthetics that it makes him look like he's inside melted cheese — or, as the first movie put it, an avocado that had relations with an older avocado.

To really appreciate "Deadpool 2" you have to have seen the original and probably every other Marvel superhero film, too. And be up on pop culture, from Cher to Broadway musicals. (It's a good thing there's no quiz at the end.) Speaking of ends, don't embarrass yourself by getting up to leave when it seems to be over. And get ready to happily sit through "Deadpool 3," too.

"Deadpool 2," 20th Century Fox release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "strong violence and language throughout, sexual references and brief drug material."

Running time: 119 minutes.

✪✪✪✩

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Her way: 3 new lifestyle books coming from Martha Stewart

NEW YORK (AP)—Martha Stewart's next three lifestyle books will be showcases for "the Martha way." Houghton Mifflin Harcourt told The Associated Press on Monday that Stewart's new series would feature her take on everything from entertaining to decorating. The first release, "The Martha Manual," is scheduled for January 2019. In a statement issued through her publisher, Stewart said the book would be a "go-to resource" for mastering "the Martha way." The magazine publisher and television host has released dozens of books, with recent works including "Martha's Flowers: A Practical Guide to Growing, Gathering, and Enjoying" and "Martha Stewart's Newlywed Kitchen: Recipes for Weeknight Dinners and Easy, Casual Gatherings."

Fall Out Boy's Pete Wentz welcomes infant daughter

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Fall Out Boy's Pete Wentz had a special Mother's Day announcement.

The 38-year-old took to Instagram on Sunday to announce the birth of his daughter with partner Meagan Camper. He wrote he's grateful Marvel Jane Wentz is here and she's "ready to takeover the world." Marvel is Wentz's third child and first daughter. The couple has a son, and Wentz had a boy with his ex, Ashlee Simpson.

Spike Lee's electric 'BlacKkKlansman' premieres at Cannes

CANNES, France (AP)—Spike Lee's Ku Klux Klan crime drama "BlacKkKlansman" received a rousing, lengthy standing ovation at the 71st Cannes Film Festival Lee's film tells true-life tale of a black police detective in Colorado who infiltrates the local chapter of the Ku Klux Klan. It was among the most highly anticipated titles at Cannes this year and immediate reaction was positive. "BlacKkKlansman" ties its story to the violent protests of Charlottesville, Virginia. It stars Denzel Washington's son, John David Washington, alongside Adam Driver and Topher Grace, who plays David Duke. Lee was outfitted in a shiny purple-and-orange tuxedo and wore one ring declaring "love" on one hand, and "hate" on the other. He bounced into the premiere announcing: "Brooklyn's in the house!" The "love" and "hate" rings pay homage to his film "Do The Right Thing"; the same jewelry was worn by character Radio Raheem.

Modigliani painting fetches $157 million at auction

NEW YORK (AP)—A 1917 painting by Amedeo Modigliani of a reclining nude woman that was once considered obscene in Paris sold for over $157 million at an auction in Manhattan on Monday.

"Nu couche (sur le cote gauche)" was the highlight of Sotheby's "Impressionist & Modern Art" sale featuring Pablo Picasso works spanning seven decades, and paintings by Claude Monet, Edvard Munch and Georgia O'Keeffe.

Modigliani shocked Europe at the turn of the 19th century with his series of 22 nudes reclining in every possible position. When the Italian-born, Jewish artist's nudes were unveiled at a Paris gallery, police demanded that it be shut down, offended by the unflinching strokes of his oil brush that thrust art's nude figure into the modern era.

In the past half-dozen years, prices for Modigliani's works have soared, from $26 million the current owner paid for "Nu couche (sur le cote gauche)" in 2003 to as much as $170 million.

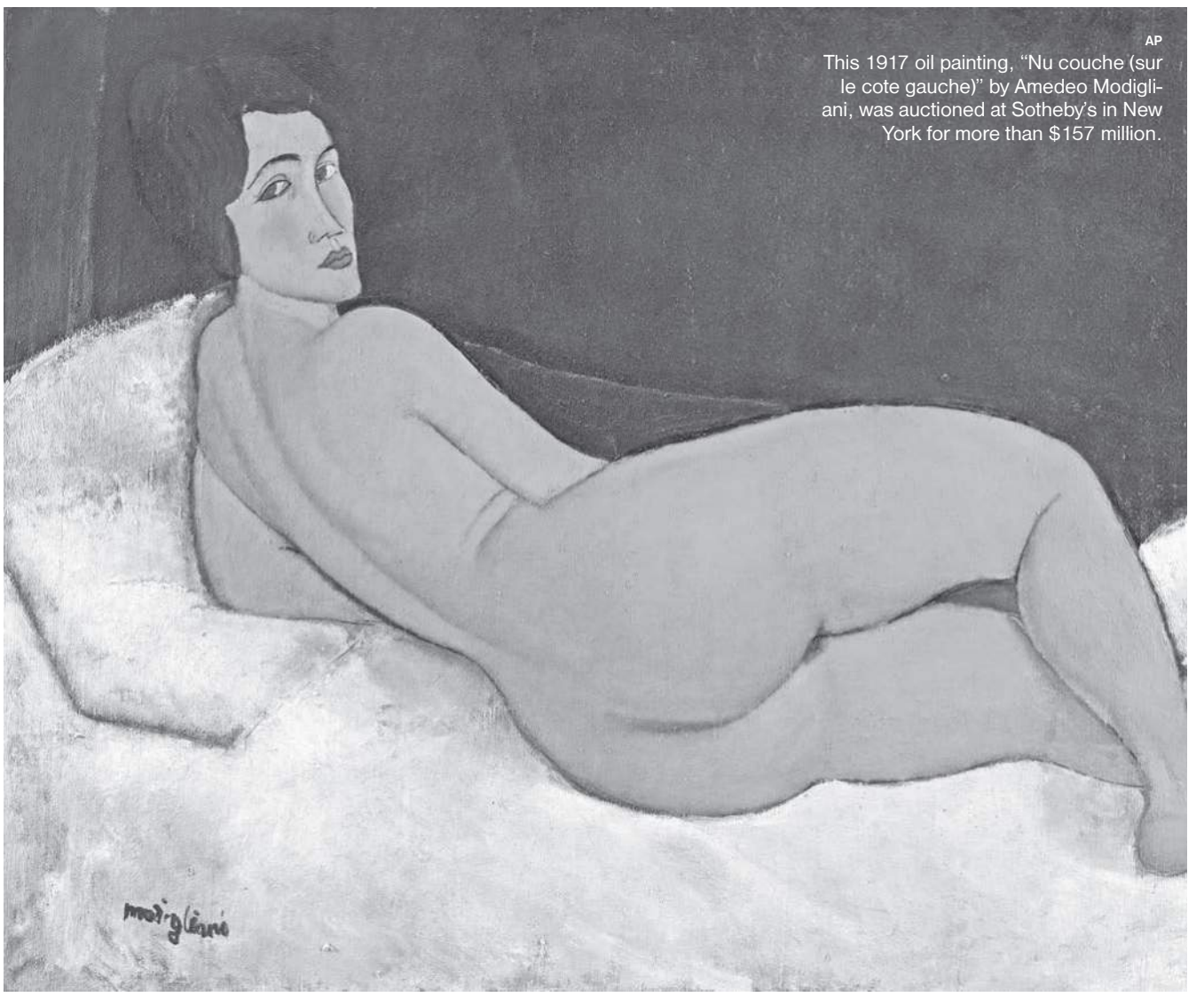
Picasso's "Le Repos," an image of his lover and "golden muse," Marie-Therese Walter, sold for $40 million. It was one of 11 Picasso works that were offered Monday evening.

Claude Monet's "Matinee sur la Seine" (Morning on the Seine), part of a lineup of river landscapes he painted while on a boat, capturing the changing light from sunrise to a lightning storm, brought in $20.6 million.

Both Munch's "Summer Night" and O'Keeffe "Lake George with White Birch" each fetched over $11 million.

Modigliani's painting, which had the highest pre-auction estimate at $150 million, was still well short of the record for the most expensive painting ever sold.

Leonardo da Vinci's "Salvator Mundi" sold last year at Christie's for $450 million.



AP
This 1917 oil painting, "Nu couche (sur le cote gauche)" by Amedeo Modigliani, was auctioned at Sotheby's in New York for more than $157 million.

Man charged with stalking Rihanna, burglarizing her home

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Authorities say a man who broke into Rihanna's Hollywood Hills home and spent 12 hours there has been charged with stalking the singer, who was not at home at the time.

Los Angeles County prosecutors say 26-year-old Eduardo Leon of Fullerton was charged Monday with felony counts of stalking, burglary and vandalism, and a misdemeanor count of resisting arrest.

He appeared in court Monday and pleaded not guilty to all of the charges.

Leon is accused of climbing over a fence and breaking into the house on May 9. Authorities say Rihanna's assistant found him and called police.

Academics protest 'media harassment' against Junot Diaz

NEW YORK (AP)—Author Rebecca Walker and some two dozen educators from Harvard, Stanford and other schools are protesting what they call a "media-harassment campaign" against Junot Diaz.

In a letter to the editor published on Monday on the website of The Chronicle of Higher Education, the signatories cited "at times uncritical" coverage of sexual misconduct against the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist. Diaz has said he accepts responsibility for his behavior.

In Monday's letter, Walker and others say they don't dismiss the allegations, but worry about a "sensationalist" portrait of the author, one that reinforces stereotypes of blacks and Latinos as sexual predators. They also contend that the discussion rules out such external factors as racism and colonialism and how they affect "the most intimate spaces."

Student takes Danny DeVito cardboard cutout to prom

CARLISLE, Pa. (AP)—A Pennsylvania high school student took an unorthodox approach to prom and brought a cardboard cutout of actor Danny DeVito to the dance.

WHTM-TV reports Allison Closs and her famous two-dimensional date joined other Carlisle High School seniors Friday for prom. Closs purchased the cutout of DeVito online along with a scooter she used to move the figure with.

DeVito starred in the classic TV series "Taxi" and films including "Twins" and "Batman Returns." He also starred in the hit comedy "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia."

Memorabilia from Prince, Bob Dylan, more go to auction

NEW YORK (AP)—Music fans looking for a piece of history are going to get a chance to own guitars, outfits and other memorabilia from the likes of Prince, Bob Dylan, George Harrison and others.

Julien's Auctions is hosting two days of auctions focused on musical artists at the Hard Rock Cafe New York and online.

A public preview of the items opened on Monday. The auction days are Friday and Saturday.

The first auction day is dedicated to Prince, the musical legend who died in April 2016. The items include a guitar the artist had commissioned, as well as a number of outfits he wore at different performances, and handwritten lyrics.

The second day's items include guitars played by Bob Dylan and George Harrison, as well as costumes and jewelry.

Search begins for recipes to replace lost heirlooms

DEAR ABBY: Due to some unfortunate family circumstances, I was devastated to discover that nearly all of my boxes of cherished recipes had been destroyed. I'm now starting over from scratch to collect special recipes I can pass down to my children.

Most of my family members have died, so they can no longer be a resource for the traditional dishes I grew up with. I saw a post online a while back about a cookbooklet set you were offering. Is it still available, and how much does it cost? It would mean a lot to me to be able to share some of your favorite recipes with my kids and younger relatives.

LORIE IN ENCINO, CALIF.

DEAR LORIE: Having been a compulsive recipe collector for many years, I can imagine how frustrating it was to discover your recipes were gone. I hope my recipe booklets will start you on your way to rebuilding your collection.

Many readers have written to tell me that my recipes are great for entertaining and actually save calories when they are divided among a greater number of guests. The Raw Apple Cake serves 16. (Remember, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away.") Think of the fiber! The Pecan Pie has taken blue ribbons in county fairs. Others were featured on the covers of women's magazines.

My cookbooklet set contains more than 100 tasty recipes for soups, salads, appetizers, main courses and desserts that can be used when friends and family get together to celebrate holidays and special occasions. Once you start reviewing "Cookbooklet II," you will see that a sweet tooth runs in my family. The cookbooklets are sold as a set and can be ordered by sending your name and address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. I hope you will enjoy all the recipes because dinner guests, family members—as well as other readers—have raved about them. They have even been used as the basis for Dear Abby-themed dinner parties. (The place cards were decorated with hearts and flowers, and the centerpiece was a "bouquet" of envelopes addressed to me.)

Included in this collection are tips on entertaining for those who are inexperienced or nervous about it. Remember, although what you put on the table is important, it's who you put in the chairs that makes a great party.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: What do you do if your friends have graciously given you several nights free at a lovely beach hotel, but your room faces a huge wall covered by a black tarp— a construction site? We've been told that no other rooms are available.

ROOM WITH NO VIEW

DEAR ROOM: Because other accommodations aren't available, you graciously accept that you won't be looking out at the moonlit water. Then do your best to enjoy your FREE holiday, spending as much time on the sunlit beach as you can. (Don't forget to use sunscreen!)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HOW MUCH MONEY DO YOU HAVE, HOBBES? MAYBE WE CAN BUY DAD A NEW PAIR OF BINOCULARS BEFORE HE GETS HOME.
I'VE GOT THIRTY...NO, THIRTY-FIVE CENTS.
GREAT. I'VE GOT FOUR DOLLARS. LET'S CALL THE STORE.
HELLO? I'D LIKE TO KNOW HOW MUCH A GOOD PAIR OF BINOCULARS COSTS.
ONE TO SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS?! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT MY DAD'S GOING TO DO TO ME?!?
HE WON'T STOP AT KILLING YOU, THAT'S FOR SURE. UH HH.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OKAY. BRAINSTORMING SESSION: TAKE TWO. JUST LET THE IDEAS AND WORDS FLOW.
a mayonnaise-based society
kittens with dark pasts
marzipan martians
the cuddliest porcupine
elvis parsley
the carsick astronaut
pantkins: pants made of napkins
ANOTHER COFFEE? ALREADY?
BRILLIANCE PARCHES, ANDRE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

SO, FANG - WHAT'S ENO UP TO?
HE'S GETTING READY FOR HIS DATE WITH A GIRL HE WANTS TO IMPRESS.
OH - SO HE'S GETTING HIMSELF ALL GROOMED AND DRESSED UP?
NO, HE'S SCRUBBING HIS FACEBOOK TIMELINE

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

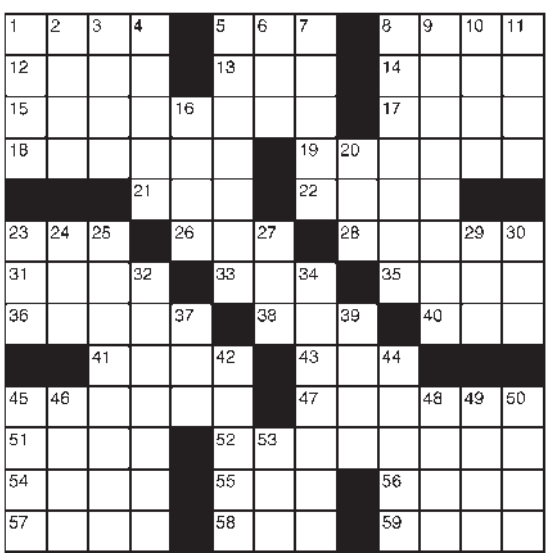
ACROSS
1 Lettuce unit
5 Motorist's org.
8 Getz of jazz
12 Woody's son
13 San Francisco's — Hill
14 Horseback game
15 "Yikes!"
17 Rainbow
18 Sanctuary
19 Legislative group
21 Mound stat
22 Uppity one
23 100 percent
26 Carrier to Amsterdam
28 Run — of the law
31 Prejudice
33 Feminine principle
35 Unravel
36 Ancient Mexican
38 Jewel
40 Exist
41 Dutch cheese
43 "That feels so good!"
45 Lunar craft
47 "Jeopardy!" fodder
51 Apple computer
52 Site of Asia's Victoria Peak Garden
54 Fill fully
55 — chi
56 Coup d'—
57 Till bills
58 Deluge refuge
59 Lairs

DOWN
1 "Funny!"
2 Love god
3 Friend
4 Holmes' creator
5 Deviation
6 "You've got mail" co.
7 Void
8 "Frasier," to "Cheers"
9 Mountainous area of Afghanistan
10 Landed
11 Schnozz
16 Gloom
20 Disney deer
23 Lawyers' org.
24 Designer Claiborne
25 Time near a deadline
27 Russian jet
29 Eg. and Syr., once
30 Caustic cleaner
32 Turns on the charm
34 Tidy type
37 Nev. neighbor
39 Actress Helgenberger
42 Maestro Zubin —
44 Increased
45 Japanese soup
46 Muscat's land
48 Cast a ballot
49 — uproar
50 Literary reps
53 Crew tool

Solution time: 23 mins.

A	P	E	D	■	F	H	D	■	L	E	N	A
L	O	G	E	■	L	O	O	■	I	C	E	D
B	U	G	B	E	A	R	S	■	T	R	O	D
A	R	S	■	T	I	N	■	S	T	U	N	S
■	■	■	J	A	N	■	P	I	E	■	■	■
L	E	G	I	T	■	Y	E	A	R	E	N	D
O	M	I	T	■	B	A	R	■	B	A	N	A
B	U	T	T	E	R	Y	■	C	U	R	E	D
■	■	■	E	M	O	■	F	O	G	■	■	■
S	H	A	R	P	■	D	I	N	■	S	A	M
L	I	M	B	■	B	U	G	J	U	I	C	E
A	L	O	U	■	O	O	H	■	F	L	I	T
B	O	R	G	■	A	S	S	■	O	L	D	E

Yesterday's answer 5-16



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Megan Fox, 32; Tori Spelling, 45; Janet Jackson, 52; Pierce Brosnan, 65.

Happy Birthday: Look for opportunities rather than laboring over deals that went sour or situations where you hesitated and missed out. Live in the present, and be ready to do your due diligence swiftly as you move forward. Size up every situation that develops, and embrace the future with optimism and the willingness to work hard to achieve your dreams. Your numbers are 2, 15, 22, 27, 31, 38, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Stability will make a difference to the way your friends or colleagues treat you. If you are reliable and offer suggestions and hands-on help, you will gain allies and support when it comes to getting ahead. Actions speak louder than words. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Partnerships can make or break you. Offer an incentive and refuse to let your stubbornness or anger interfere with your plans. Professionalism on your part will make a difference to the way situations unfold. Keep the peace. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Concentrate on finishing what you start. Don't let anyone mislead you. Pay attention to what's going on around you. Delays, detours and a last-minute change of plans will disrupt your day. Personal physical improvements can be made. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Secrets will be kept from you if you don't ask direct questions. Look at all aspects of a situation at work or at home before you make a decision that can change the dynamics of a relationship with someone you deal with daily. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Trust in what and who you know. Walk away from unstable situations and people. Put your energy into getting ahead by doing a thorough job and taking care of matters yourself. A little romance will brighten your day. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Learn as you go. Watching what others do will help you when it's your turn to present and promote what you have to offer. Networking, business meetings and trips will bring promising results. A change of scenery will do you good. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Put more effort into the way you look or present what you know. Exploring your options and making personal changes that suit the goals you set will make a big difference to how far and fast you get ahead. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Being open about what you want or how you feel will be in your best interest. Once you know where you stand, you'll be able to make an appropriate decision and take action. It's OK to be different. Do what suits you best. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Money, partnerships and keeping things open and honest will be in your best interest. If someone is being evasive, you are best to walk away if you feel the least bit uncomfortable. Know your limitations and avoid temptation. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Positive changes can be made at home or to the way you earn your living. Plan a celebration with someone you love or who has helped you along. Personal gains are within reach. Distance yourself from anyone who is problematic. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Put more time and effort into home, family and personal finances. Refuse to get wrapped up in someone else's dilemma or extravagant plans. Live by your standards and stand by those who think and feel the same way you do. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Caution must be taken when it comes to money matters, joint ventures or dealing with close friends or relatives asking for a handout. Offer suggestions, but don't put your security in jeopardy for emotional reasons or someone else's gain. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are reliable, determined and assertive. You are fashionable and reserved.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5	2	4	3	7		
	9						8	
6								
7								
8				2	1	5	9	7
2								3
5								6
	4						7	
		2	6	9	5	1		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/16

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9	8	5	3	2	6	7	1	4
1	6	2	4	7	9	8	5	3
7	4	3	1	5	8	6	2	9
6	5	1	8	4	2	3	9	7
2	9	4	6	3	7	1	8	5
8	3	7	5	9	1	4	6	2
4	7	8	9	1	5	2	3	6
5	2	6	7	8	3	9	4	1
3	1	9	2	6	4	5	7	8

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/16

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

'MANHUNT: UNABOMBER' (NETFLIX SERIES) Solution: 8 letters

R	E	N	I	L	T	E	J	J	E	R	E	M	Y	C
S	O	D	R	O	S	K	T	A	B	B	Y	A	Y	I
W	I	S	A	V	E	J	P	I	R	B	A	N	N	K
E	N	R	E	V	I	E	X	I	L	E	O	O	A	S
R	N	A	H	M	I	C	T	I	N	Ⓢ	I	B	T	N
D	O	L	E	C	O	D	L	R	L	T	Ⓐ	K	T	Y
N	T	A	H	S	U	N	Y	E	C	F	R	Ⓜ	E	Z
A	G	E	N	T	R	B	T	I	M	A	T	A	B	C
M	N	P	A	A	O	T	F	C	D	E	T	E	C	A
A	I	P	N	N	I	N	O	P	L	A	N	E	N	K
N	H	A	A	G	D	L	A	R	E	G	Z	T	I	F
H	T	E	Y	K	E	Y	M	I	L	L	E	N	E	G
U	R	N	R	E	N	O	A	N	A	T	A	L	I	E
N	O	O	B	E	U	G	R	A	L	L	I	E	S	D
T	W	N	A	M	R	E	K	C	A	H	S	I	E	K

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Abri, Ackerman, Agent, Allies, Andrew, Andy, Appeal, Argue, Bettany, Bobb, Bryan, Chris, Clemente, Cole, Dark, David, Exile, Fiction, Fitzgerald, Genelli, Gittelson, Jeremy, Jetliner, Jim, Kaczynski, Keisha, Manhunt, Mark, Natalie, Netflix, Noth, Obyrne, Plane, Reno, Rosemont, Sam, Save, Sean, Sodrosk, Stan, Tabby, Ted, Tony, Track, Work, Worthington

Yesterday's Answer: Odd Couple

Treasuries 13 through 29 can be purchased on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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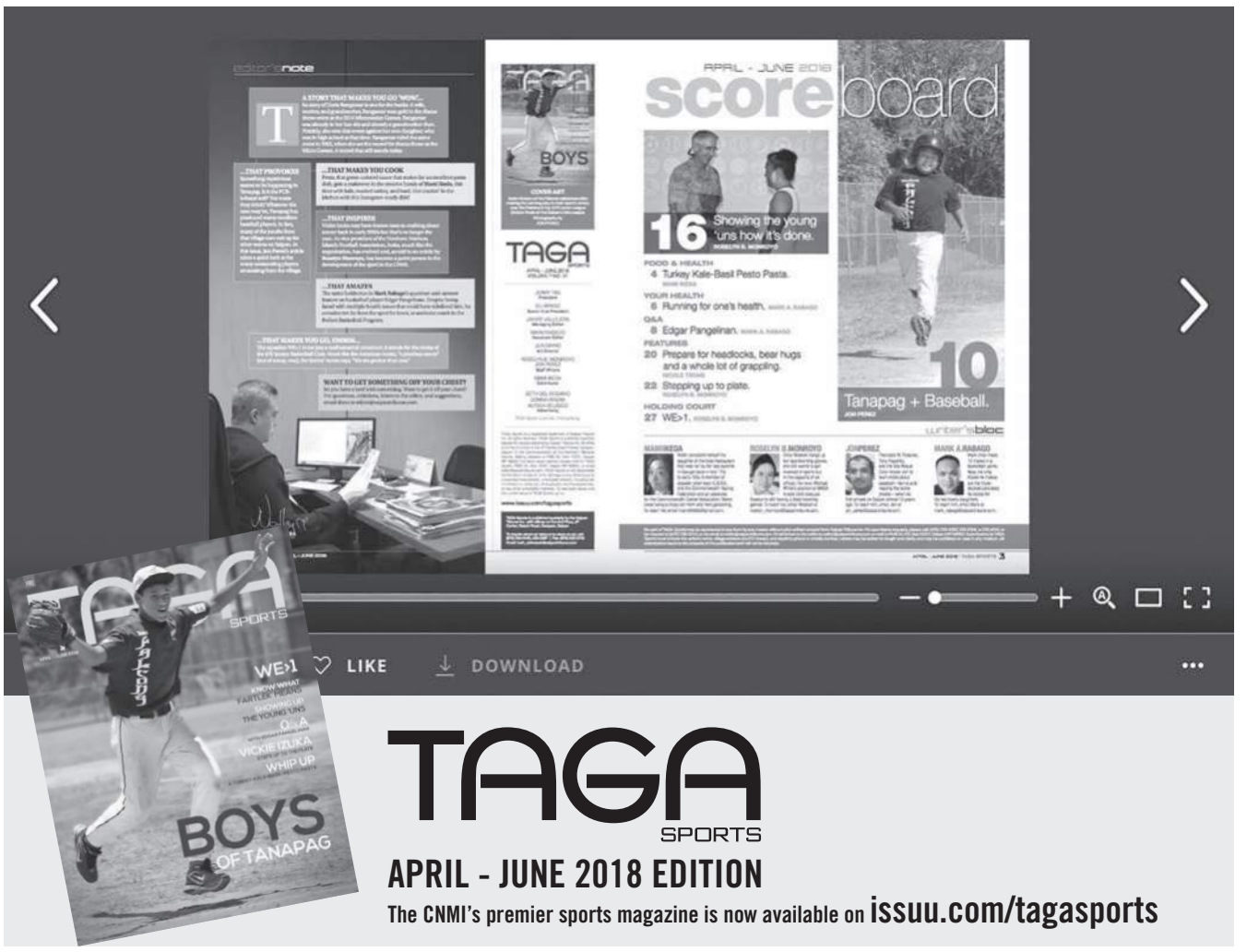

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A's hit 3 solo shots in victory against Red Sox

BOSTON (AP)—Even after pitching a no-hitter against the Red Sox last month, Sean Manaea was worried about facing them again.

This outing would be at Fenway Park, where he was terrible in two career starts.

Manaea stayed calm and beat the Red Sox again Monday night as Khris Davis hit one of three solo homers by the Oakland Athletics in a 6-5 victory.

In his previous two outings at Fenway, the 26-year-old lefty gave up 15 earned runs in 6 1/3 innings.

"That was kind of in the back of my head coming into tonight," Manaea said. "That was just one of the things I had to overcome and not shy away—just tackling those fears head-on."

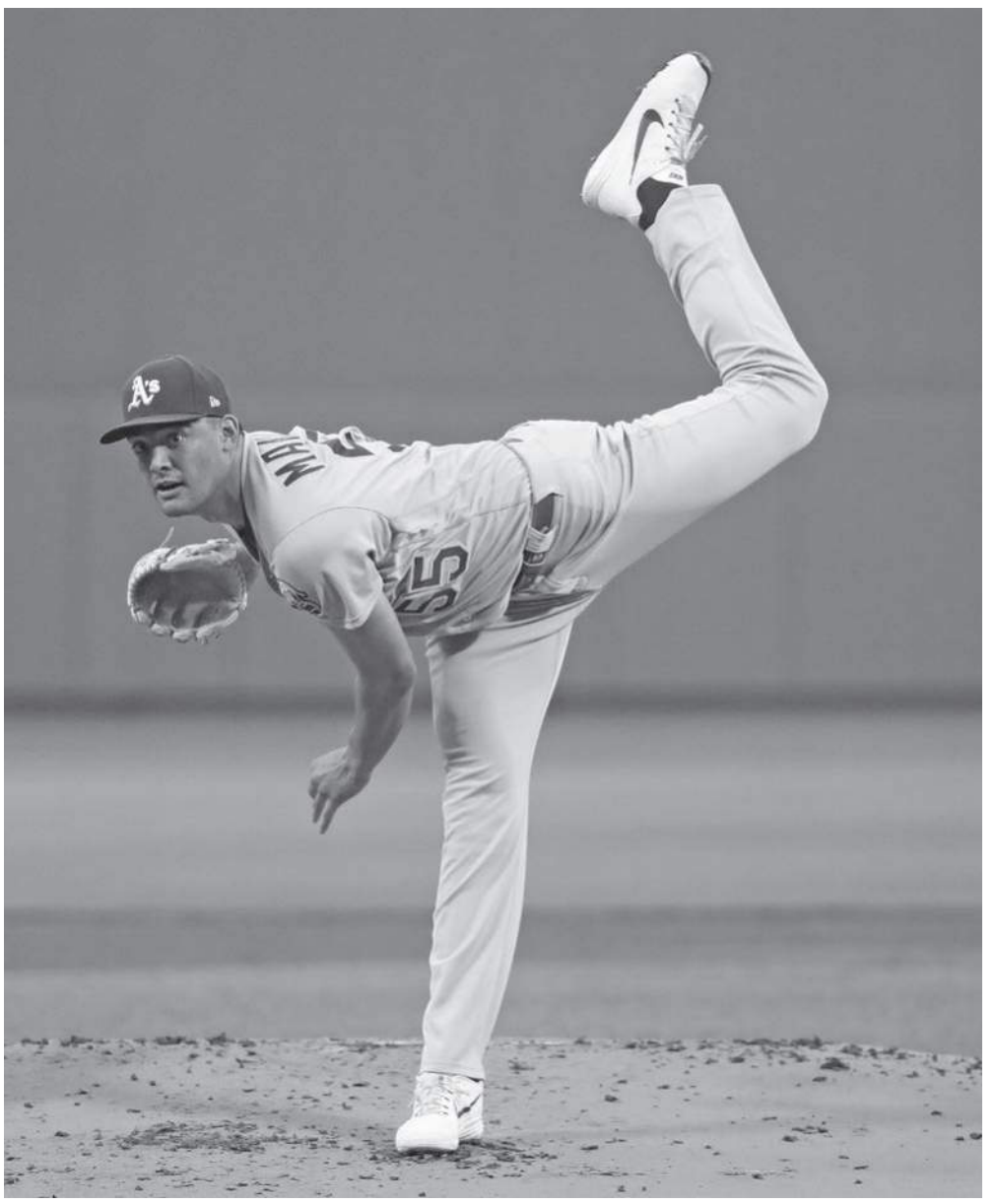
Matt Joyce and Matt Olson also went deep for the A's, who had lost five of six to the Astros and Yankees. Davis connected for his team-leading 12th home run as Oakland handed Rick Porcello his first loss of the season.

Manaea (5-4) allowed four runs—three earned—and eight hits in six-plus innings, snapping his two-game skid. He threw the seventh no-hitter in Oakland history at home against the Red Sox on April 21.

"He was good, a pretty tough place to pitch," Athletics manager Bob Melvin said. "You're not going to go out there and throw a no-hitter against them. Overall, left with the lead in this ballpark—a pretty good job."

The Red Sox knew they had to try something different against Manaea.

"We talked about (not) expanding down in the zone," Boston manager Alex Cora said. "Overall, we did a good job of it. His stuff is still good."



Blake Treinen got three outs for his seventh save.

J.D. Martinez and Rafael Devers each hit a solo shot for the Red Sox. Boston opened a seven-game homestand after a 6-4 trip.

Braves 6, Cubs 5

In Chicago, Ozzie Albies hit a leadoff drive for his 13th homer, Jose Bautista belted a three-run shot and Atlanta held off Chicago.

Julio Teheran (4-1) pitched six innings and Tyler Flowers hit his first homer this season as NL-leading Atlanta (25-15) won for the sixth time in seven games. The surprising Braves moved 10 games over .500 for the first time since July 28, 2014.

A.J. Minter worked a shaky ninth inning for his second save in the makeup of an April 15 rainout. Minter hit Ian Happ with a pitch to force in a run with two outs, but Kris Bryant lined out to left field to end the game.

Rays 2, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Tampa Bay's Adeiny Hechavarria danced around catcher Salvador Perez with an inventive slide at home plate to score the go-ahead run.

Hechavarria dashed home on Matt Duffy's single to right field in the sixth inning, sidestepped Perez to the right, then dove back toward the plate. Hechavarria faked toward the dish with his right hand, then jabbed his left hand just past Perez's outstretched glove to touch the plate. Umpire Rob Drake immediately signaled safe.

Tigers 6, Indians 3

In Detroit, Niko Goodrum homered twice and drove in five runs as injury-plagued Detroit beat Carlos Carrasco and Cleveland.

For the second straight day, the Tigers won despite fielding a patchwork lineup. Miguel Cabrera is on the disabled list, and Detroit has also been without Nicholas Castellanos and Jeimer Candelario.

Jose Ramirez hit his 13th homer for the Indians, but the AL Central leaders fell back to .500 and are only two games ahead of Detroit. Carrasco (5-2) allowed three runs and six hits in 6 2/3 innings.

Rockies 6, Padres 4

In San Diego, Gerardo Parra hit a go-ahead, three-run homer in the sixth inning and rookie Noel Cuevas went deep for the first time as the Colorado Rockies beat the San Diego Padres.

Daniel Castro also homered for the Rockies, who won for the second time in six games.

Franmil Reyes made his big league debut for the Padres after leading all of professional baseball in homers with 14 while at Triple-A El Paso. He started in right field and went 0 for 4. He reached on a throwing error by shortstop Trevor Story that allowed Franchy Cordero to score for a 2-1 lead in the fourth.

Brewers 7, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, pinch-hitter Tyler Saladino dashed around the bases for an inside-the-park home run after Arizona center fielder A.J. Pollock was injured diving for the ball, and the Milwaukee Brewers beat the slumping Diamondbacks,.

Pollock dived for Saladino's line drive in the ninth inning, missed and rolled over his glove hand. He sat in center favoring his left arm while Saladino slid head-first for the 28th inside-the-park homer in club history. A trainer led Pollock off the field.

Mariners 1, Twins 0

In Minneapolis, after spending much of the day feeling ill, James Pazos gave the Seattle Mariners a gritty performance against Minnesota.

Pitching through a nasty case of food poisoning, the Seattle reliever picked up the win when Twins first baseman Logan Morrison committed a throwing error in the eighth inning that sent the Mariners past the Twins after a long rain delay Monday night.

Woods not that far from winning

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Tiger Woods was never going to win the Players Championship on Sunday. But that didn't mean he couldn't make a strong statement.

And so he did, shooting a 3-under-par 69 to finish in a six-way tie for 11th place, seven shots behind winner Webb Simpson.

"I'm not that far off from winning golf tournaments," Woods said, delivering his boldest statement of this comeback. "There's no way I would have predicted I would be at this point the beginning of the year, the way I was just coming back and just trying to get a feel for it and then hopefully have a schedule. I didn't know. But now I feel like I've got my playing feels and I'm playing tournament golf and I've got it."

Considering that Woods was tied for 69th after the opening round and made the cut on the number at 1-under par and was tied for 68th entering the weekend, his 65-69 finish on Saturday and Sunday cannot be ignored.

Still, it could have—should have—been better. For the second consecutive day, Woods allowed what could have been a spectacular round to fall short of what it might have been.

As he did in Saturday's third round, Woods made a big move on the front nine. On Saturday, he shot 30 on the front. On Sunday, starting the day 11 shots behind Simpson, Woods shot 32 on the front.

When Woods birdied Nos. 11 and 12, he got to 14-under par and trailed Simpson by only four shots, tied for third place.

But, just like Saturday, Woods was unable to keep his run going on the back nine, instead stalling. After going 6-under through his first 12 holes, Woods played the last six in 3-over.

"I played so well this weekend, unfortunately I just didn't cash in," Woods said.

Woods hit his worst shot of the day on the par-3 17th hole, where his tee shot was woefully short and took a dip in the lake. It was the first time Woods has hit a ball into the water on 17 in 13 years and it resulted in a damaging double bogey and dropped him to 11-under par.

"I didn't play particularly well in the first couple days, but I turned it around this weekend and I got it rolling," Woods said. "If I would have got off to a better start this week, if I would have had the game I had this weekend the beginning of the week, I would have gave Webb a little bit of a run."

Woods, who will next play at the Memorial the first week of June in advance of the U.S. Open at Shinnecock, called his weekend play "extremely positive."

Of significance for Woods, who entered the week 92nd in the world rankings, is trying to climb into the top 50, which would qualify him for the WGC-Bridgestone in August in Akron, Ohio, where the tournament will be played for the last time.

Recovering Neymar confirmed for Brazil's World Cup squad

SAO PAULO (AP)—A recovering Neymar was confirmed and injured leader Dani Alves was replaced by Danilo and Fagner in a Brazil World Cup squad of few surprises on Monday.

The only surprises were among the likely reserves for the tournament in Russia, with the inclusion of Shakhtar Donetsk midfielder Fred and winger Taison.

Neymar has been recovering from right foot surgery in March, and Brazil Football Confederation doctors believe he will be fit to train next week in Teresopolis, where preparations will begin, and play on June 3 in a friendly against Croatia in Liverpool.

Brazil doctor Rodrigo Lasmar said at a news conference in Rio de Janeiro he examined Neymar on the weekend and the results were positive.

"This is the final stage of his recovery, he will be able to go to training sessions soon, and will play the friendlies," Lasmar said.

Coach Tite said Neymar was one of the top three players in the world, but insisted his team didn't depend on him alone.

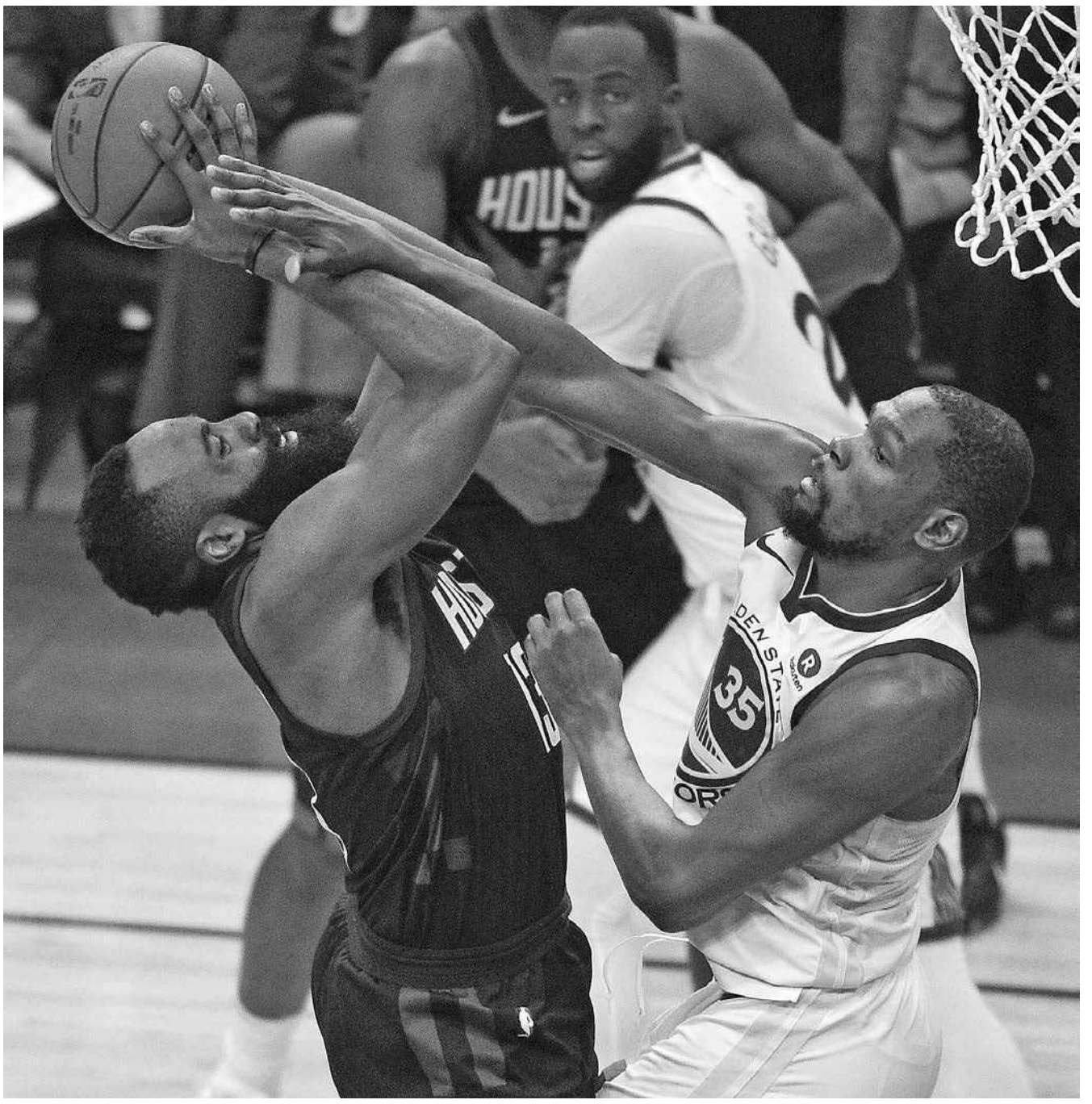
"We will be much stronger with Neymar doing well, but for him to do well the rest of the team has to be well, too," he said.

All but one of Tite's starting lineup in World Cup qualifiers was confirmed in the squad: Alisson; Miranda, Marquinhos and Marcelo; Casemiro, Paulinho, Renato Augusto and Philippe Coutinho; Neymar and Gabriel Jesus.

Defender Alves, a veteran of two World Cups, sprained his right ACL last week in the French Cup final and was replaced in the 23-man Brazil squad by Manchester City's Danilo and Corinthians' Fagner. Tite decided not to inform who are the players that could replace one of those until June 4 in case of injury.

Tite also summoned goalkeepers Ederson (Manchester City) and Cassio (Corinthians); defenders Thiago Silva, (Paris Saint-Germain) Pedro Geromel (Gremio) and Filipe Luis (Atletico Madrid); midfielders Fernandinho (Man City) and Willian (Chelsea); and strikers Roberto Firmino (Liverpool) and Douglas Costa (Juventus).

Durant's 37 lead Warriors over Rockets in Game 1



AP
Golden State Warriors forward Kevin Durant (35) fouls Houston Rockets guard James Harden in the second half during Game 1 of the NBA Western Conference Finals, Monday, May 14, 2018, in Houston.

HOUSTON (AP)—Kevin Durant continues to deliver in the postseason for the Golden State Warriors.

He scored 37 points on Monday night to lead the Warriors to a 119-106 win in the long-awaited showdown with the Houston Rockets in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals.

But if it were up to him, he would have done even more.

Durant wasn't happy with coach Steve Kerr when he took him out in late in the third quarter and loudly asked his coach why he was putting him on the bench. Durant, who played just more than 40 minutes, was asked if he'd prefer to play the entire 48 minutes.

"Probably so," Durant said.

Kerr acknowledged that he should have left him in at that point and raved about his performance after his fourth 30-point game this postseason.

"This is why anybody would want him on their team ... I don't know what you do to guard him," Kerr said. "He can get any shot he wants."

Starting a playoff series on the road for the first time since 2014, the Warriors trailed by as many as 9 early, but had evened it up by halftime and used a big run at the beginning of the fourth quarter to pull away.

"We're in the Western Conference finals they are going to come out with a lot of energy," Durant said. "We're going to take that first punch and keep punching."

Game 2 is Wednesday night in Houston.

Eric Gordon opened the final period with a 3-pointer to get the top-seeded Rockets within 4, but Thompson scored the first eight points of a 13-4 run to make it 100-87 with about eight minutes left.

Houston used a 9-3 spurt, where James Harden scored five, to cut the lead to 103-96 with less than five minutes to go. But Thompson struck again, hitting a wide open 3 to leave the Warriors ahead by 10 with four minutes left.

Harden scored 41 to lead the Rockets, who lost at home for the second time this postseason.

"You're not going to come in and just knock them out," Houston coach Mike D'Antoni said. "There were too many times where we had mental lapses. We didn't switch properly, turned the ball over and missed too many layups. We need to do a better job of staying up mentally."

Now the Rockets are left to regroup after losing their leg up in the homecourt advantage they worked all season for.

"It's nice to have home court," D'Antoni said. "(But) we don't have it. Now we've got to go get it."

Steph Curry added 18 for the Warriors, who are in the conference finals for a franchise-record fourth straight time. It's Houston's first trip since 2015 when Golden State won the series in five games.

"I think he's going to get even better as the series goes on, which is good for us," Kerr said of Curry.

The Warriors, who are the second seed in the West, opened a playoff series away from Oracle Arena for the first time since 2014 when they lost to the Los Angeles Clippers 4-3 in the opening round.

Houston struggled to slow down Durant all night, and things got even worse when Trevor Ariza picked up his fifth foul with about 10 minutes left in the third with Golden State up by 3. Durant made two baskets for the Warriors around one by Chris Paul that left the Warriors up 73-68 a couple of minutes later.

"He's one of the best scorers ever," D'Antoni said of Durant. "I thought he was extremely good. But we can withstand that. We can't withstand turning the ball over and giving up so many wide open 3s."

Gordon added a layup for Houston after that, but Golden State scored the next six points, with a 3-pointer from Thompson, to make it 79-70 with about 4 1/2 minutes left in the third.

Houston ended a scoring drought of more than two minutes with a dunk by Harden seconds later and the Warriors followed with another run, scoring six straight points to extend it to 85-72 with just more than two minutes left in the third.

The Rockets rediscovered their offense after that, scoring the next eight points, powered by 3s from Gordon and Gerald Green, to get within 85-80 with about a minute left in the quarter.

Durant added two free throws to close out the quarter and leave the Warriors up 87-80 entering the fourth.

"Houston, they never stop," Durant said. "They are always in the game with 3-point shots. We try to get good shots every time down and defend on the other end."

Lineup change possible as LeBron, Cavs look to bounce back

BOSTON (AP)—Put Kevin Love's name atop the list of the Cavaliers that walked out of Cleveland's 25-point Eastern Conference finals Game 1 loss to Boston a little staggered, but with an unbowed head.

The reason: He's got a teammate by the name of LeBron James that's had a way of responding after lopsided playoff defeats.

Just ask the Indiana Pacers.

The Pacers stunned the Cavs at home in their first-round opener, rolling to an 18-point victory. In Game 2, James was all but unstoppable as he replied with a 46-point, 12-rebound performance.

"I expect him to have a big response," Love said of James on Monday. "He's always done it. Even before he came back to Cleveland and since I've been here he's always responded big. .... He's going to approach this game as one that he's going to have to lead and bounce back."

Even if James does have a big Game 2 Tuesday night in Boston, he'll need some help—and the Cavaliers know it.

Love said he thought the Cavs were a "little soft" in the first half in Game 1. Getting tougher could mean a lineup change for the Cavaliers.

Coach Tyronn Lue acknowledged that he was at the least considering inserting Tristan Thompson into the lineup after Boston's Al Horford had his way in Game 1, scoring 20 points on 8-of-10 shooting.

"It's definitely something we have to weigh," Lue said. "We weighed it before the series started, but we'd won seven out of eight and we weren't going to adjust until someone beat us and we didn't play well with that lineup and that got us to this point."

Lue said numbers showed that in the last three years, out of all the players that have guarded Horford over at least 30 possessions, Thompson is No. 1 in the league defending him.

"So that's a good thing to know," Lue said.

Boston also outscored Cleveland 60-38 in the paint. That, JR Smith said, is a sign James' supporting cast needs to do more.

"We've got to help `Bron," he said. "We can't just expect him to do everything. As role players, we've got to play our role."

Thompson came off the bench Sunday but has fared well opposite Horford in the past. Change would mean going away from the three-guard lineup of Smith, George Hill and Kyle Korver, along with James and Love. That lineup tormented the Raptors last series.

Thompson said the Cavs weren't able to "clean up the boo-boo on our lips" after the Celtics' initial run in Game 1.

"I think as a team, 1 through 5, we gotta all play tougher," Thompson said. "Obviously, when I check in the game I try to bring that toughness and that energy. But our starters gotta be ready to throw the first punch. We need them to do that, we need them to be physical and set a tone early."

He said his past playoff success against Horford has come by him being himself, which means being active early.

"Horford is playing very well right now and he's shooting the crap out of the ball," Thompson said. "When I go check into the game, whether it's him or (Aron) Baynes I just try to run the floor, set pick-and-rolls and just try to work him on both ends so that hopefully by the second half his legs might be a little tired where he might not make that three that he makes in the first half."

Boston doesn't seem concerned about who the Cavs put on the floor.

The Celtics feel they are a much different team than the one that trudged into last year's conference finals matchup with Cleveland still toting the emotional baggage of helping teammate Isaiah Thomas cope with the death of his sister.

Boston also started that series on just a days' rest following a draining seven-game series with Washington.

None of that is a factor this time around for a rebuilt roster that despite being down two All-Stars in Kyrie Irving and Gordon Hayward, has found a synergy with its remaining group.

This incarnation of the Celtics is not only young and athletic but playing with a physicality that was missing at times last season.

The Celtics' starters scored 88 points in Game 1, while shooting 58 percent from the field and going 10 of 21 from the 3-point line. Cleveland's starters scored 46 points, shooting 33 percent from the field and going just 3 of 19 from beyond the arc.

Close wins for Falcons, Bears; Blue Jays triumph

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears eked out a 9-8 win over the defending champions Aces in the 2018 Saipan Baseball League last Thursday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Leftfielder Rick Dela Cruz hit a triple that drove in A.J. Lizama and then reached off a passed ball at the bottom of the ninth inning to hand the Bears the close win.

It was a come-from-behind victory as the Bears entered the last inning facing a 6-8 deficit. Kiku Lizama led off for the Bears at the bottom of the ninth and was struck out by Dung Tenorio. Catcher Virgil Secharmidal was next at bat and had a base hit before eventually making it home off the Aces' successive errors. A.J. Lizama batted third and doubled and after giving up back-to-back hits, Tenorio was replaced by John Tudela. The Aces closer had not settled in yet on the mound and yielded a triple to Dela Cruz, while his passed ball gave the latter the time to score the game-winning run.

The triple was Dela Cruz's lone hit in the game, while A.J. Lizama went 4-for-5 and scored two runs and three RBIs. Fred Songao was 3-for-4 and added one RBI.

In last Wednesday's game, the Falcons also labored through an 8-7 win over the Mariners.

A three-run top of the ninth inning gave the Falcons enough cushion and they kept the shaky lead by playing tough defense at the bottom.

After the Mariners scored two runs and threatened the Falcons with only one out, the latter got back-to-back outs to leave runners stranded at third and second. The Falcons worked a 4-3 putout play on Nate Smith, while closer Nathan Camacho fanned Matt Kintol.

Ian Norita hit 3-for-4 for the Falcons and delivered three RBIs and one run, while Peter Lieto went 3-for-6 and scored two runs.

In other results last week, the Blue Jays topped the Indians, 16-14.

The Blue Jays got off to a strong start, scoring 10 runs in the first three innings and then withstood the Indians rally to notch the win.

Supreme Court ruling clears way for legalized sports betting

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court on Monday struck down a federal law that bars gambling on football, basketball, baseball and other sports in most states, giving states the go-ahead to legalize betting on sports.

The Supreme Court ruled 6-3 to strike down the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act. The 1992 law barred state-authorized sports gambling with some exceptions. It made Nevada the only state where a person could wager on the results of a single game.

One research firm estimated before the ruling that if the Supreme Court were to strike down the law, 32 states would likely offer sports betting within five years.

"The legalization of sports gambling requires an important policy choice, but the choice is not ours to make. Congress can regulate sports gambling directly, but if it elects not to do so, each state is free to act on its own. Our job is to interpret the law Congress has enacted and decide whether it is consistent with the Constitution. PASPA is not," Justice Samuel Alito wrote for the court.

The court's decision came in a case from New Jersey, which has fought for years to legalize gambling on sports at casinos and racetracks in the state. Then-New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said after arguments in the case in December that if justices sided with the state, bets could be taken "within two weeks" of a decision. On Monday, after the ruling was announced, Christie tweeted that it was a "great day for the rights of states and their people to make their own decisions."

It's possible that the first to market with sports betting in New Jersey will be a racetrack at the Jersey shore. Monmouth Park has already set up a sports book operation and has previously estimated it could take bets within two weeks of a favorable Supreme Court ruling.

Tony Rodio, president of Tropicana Entertainment, said his Atlantic City casino will "absolutely" offer sports betting once it can get it up and running. "It's been a long time coming," he said.

Last June, when the court agreed to hear the case, Del Mar Thoroughbred Club's chief operating officer, Josh Rubinstein, told the Union-Tribune's Bryce Miller: "I don't want to be overly dramatic. But it could be a game-changer for California horse racing. … There's an opportunity to open our doors to a whole new fan base."

More than a dozen states had supported New Jersey, which argued that Congress exceeded its authority when it passed the 1992 Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act, barring states from authorizing sports betting. New Jersey said the Constitution allows Congress to pass laws barring wagering on sports, but Congress can't require states to keep sports gambling prohibitions in place.

All four major U.S. professional sports leagues, the NCAA and the federal government had urged the court to uphold the federal law. In court, the NBA, NFL, NHL and Major League Baseball had argued that New Jersey's gambling expansion would hurt the integrity of their games. Outside court, however, leaders of all but the NFL have shown varying degrees of openness to legalized sports gambling.

The American Gaming Association estimates that Americans illegally wager about $150 billion on sports each year.

The 1992 law at issue in the case bars state-authorized sports gambling with exceptions for Nevada, Montana, Oregon and Delaware, states that had approved some form of sports wagering before the law took effect. Nevada is the only state where a person can wager on the results of a single game, though the law doesn't cover wagering between friends. The law also doesn't cover animal races, such as horse racing, which many states already allow.

New Jersey has spent years and millions of dollars in legal fees trying to legalize sports betting at its casinos, racetracks and former racetracks. In 2012, with voters' support, New Jersey lawmakers passed a law allowing sports betting, directly challenging the 1992 federal law which says states can't "authorize by law" sports gambling. The four major professional sports leagues and the NCAA sued, and the state lost in court.

NMIFA

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on this great opportunity.

Sekiguchi first held a similar course in December 2016, but in the past years, majority of the CNMI coaches had to go off-island to obtain their C license. With NMIFA hosting the course here, the seminar will be tailored on the specific needs of the island, save coaches and clubs the travel costs, and give them flexibility with the schedule, as classes will be held at night on weekdays and full days on weekends.

"I also started with a lower-level license and have recently received the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Professional Coaching Diploma, which is the highest level. The more I learned about soccer at the international level, the more exciting it gets and the more I realize that I have a lot more to learn. Through the coach training, one can learn new things, build his or her skills, and help develop kids' potential. Pursuing coaching also opens the door for opportunities inside and outside of NMI and at the global level. It also helps build the quality environment for kids to enjoy soccer and achieve their full potential. I would like to see many people experience the excitement and joy of coaching and soccer," Mita said.

"Of course, completion of the course doesn't mean that one becomes a good coach, but NMI has many clubs and youth teams and has the environment where licensed coaches apply what they have been learning and improve their coaching skills, which ultimately enhances the quality of the players," he added.

The NMIFA official added that well-equipped coaches are needed to work on players beyond the "golden age" of the sport.

"Having observed the youth league games and the national youth male and female players, I see that many of them have the ball-handling skills, but to be honest I have rarely found players who have a comprehensive skill-set required for a soccer player, such as soccer techniques, individual tactics, and physical and mental fitness. I think this is why we hardly see teams with players in U15 boys, U16 girls, U18 boys league that demonstrate combination plays or team tactics," Mita said.

"I think the reason behind this is a lack of opportunity for the players to receive a comprehensive training beyond the so-called, 'golden age' between the ages of 10-12. For Saipan to achieve full potential, we need people who are able to train and coach teenage players," he explained.

Having certified coaches will soon be a requirement for clubs and national teams under AFC thus NMIFA wanted to take an early step toward meeting that standard. The course will give individuals the proper foundation in coaching and according to NMIFA, the "C" license is also the minimum certification needed to qualify as a coach for national and international tournaments.

Deadline for submission of the course's registration form is this Friday. For more information, call NMIFA at 235-0173.

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lane Santos and forced Kian Hodges to a 1-3 output play, leaving Anthony Cabrera stranded at third. Leadoff batter Wayne Takai flied out at home for the first out, while Cabrera was next at bat, walked, and moved to second and third off passed balls, but was stuck there after Pangelinan got the two outs at the bottom of the fifth.

Then at the top of the sixth, the Little Legals earned two more runs, thanks to Palacios and Borja's RBI double each. Palacios' hit brought Pangelinan home, as the latter also doubled in his last at bat. Palacios, who made it to third off a passed ball after his double, also reached, courtesy of Borja's double. Borja was then left at second base when closer Jesse Stole fanned Reef Camacho for the third out. The Little Legals' first two batters went down with the Bank of Saipan first baseman Santos catching a line drive from Sablan and then teaming up with second baseman Jake Aguon in a 4-3 putout play on Jose Norita.

With the Bank of Saipan down by 7, 8-1, it must score at least seven runs, too for the match to continue. Bank of Saipan fell short and the Little Legals took the win a few minutes before darkness covered the "Tan Ge" field.

The Little Legals got the two quick outs with Pangelinan striking out Ezra Ada and throwing the ball to Palacios at first baseman for a 1-3 play on Aguon. A single from Jesus Tyquenco kept Bank of Saipan's hopes alive, as he also reached off the Little Legals' error at centerfield. Bank of Saipan made it two in a row when Stole scored, too off the Little Legals' booboo at third. However, that was it for Bank of Saipan, as Pangelinan fanned the next batter—Greg Perez, who was caught looking when the former threw his third pitch.

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Ol'Aces, who led by as much as 7 in the second quarter, 18-11, but ended up falling behind at the break when Fiesta Resort rallied in the latter part of that period.

Multiple players teamed up in Fiesta Resort's 13-2 scoring surge in the last five minutes and change of the second frame. Travilla, who is in town to suit up for the CNMI National Women's Team that will play in the 2018 Micronesian Games in Yap, played for the first time for Fiesta Resort and contributed 4 markers in that spurt. Kautz, Quina Flores, and Nana Watanabe were the other players who scored for Fiesta Resort, which took a 24-20 halftime edge.

The Ol'Aces were stuck to 18 points for several minutes before a layup from Eleina ended the drought.

Eleina continued to carry the heavy load for the Ol'Aces when the game resumed, while Fiesta Resort spread the wealth to keep the upper hand, 36-31, entering the fourth quarter.

In the final canto, Eleina found an ally in her sibling, Annalei, as they helped the Ol'Aces send the game in extension. Madi Alegre also delivered clutch baskets for Fiesta Resort in the fourth period to save her team from losing the important series opener. The former Marianas High School standout scored Fiesta Resort's last 4 points in regulation.

Then in overtime, the rest of Alegre's teammates took over to move Fiesta Resort closer to the division title.

Alegre was the lone Fiesta Resort player to finish in twin digits with her 10 points, but she had six teammates adding at least 5 points each in the close win. Eleina Santos led all scorers with her 30 markers, while Alliyah Fernandez tallied 10, but was held to one field goal in the fourth canto and was scoreless in the extension. Annalei chipped in 9.

Meanwhile, the Ol'Aces drew first blood in the men's division playoffs after pouncing on the Chalan Kanoa Ballerz, 109-35.

Six Ol'Aces players registered double figures in the pennant champions' most lopsided win this season. The Ol'Aces took the pennant after earning a perfect 7-0 record in the round-robin contest, while the Ballerz had a dismal 1-6 mark and finished last in the rankings.

The single-elimination playoffs will continue tonight with No. 3 Akkeri (4-2) facing No. 6 Casino (2-5) in the curtain-raiser at 6:30pm. Other first round pairings are No. 2 670 Sonics (6-1) vs No. 1 Saints (2-5), and the No.4 Genesis All-Stars (3-4) vs No. 5 Ol'Aces Extra (2-5). Winners in the first four playoff games will battle for the two finals berths, while the championship round will be a best-of-three affair.

Fiesta Resort 54— Alegre 10, Espinosa 8, Travilla 8, Camacho 7, Watanabe 6, Ito 6, Kautz 5, Villagomez 2, Flores 2.

Ol'Aces 52 — E. Santos 30, Fernandez 10, A. Santos 9, Simram 2, D. Camacho 1.

Scoring by quarters: 11-14, 24-20, 36-31, 46-46, 54-52 (OT)

Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League U15 Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

670 Sonics and RT Law NMI Rollers players battle for the rebound during the first half of their title game in the 2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League held early this month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The 670 Sonics' Tony Kim is hounded by NMI Rollers defenders at the baseline.

The NMI Rollers' Allan Morilla, left, and the 670 Sonics' Bryan Bernardo jockey for position at the baseline during an inbound play.

The 670 Sonics' John Rizo, third left, goes after the rebound against two NMI Rollers players.

The 670 Sonics' Raven Francisco pulls up for a floater.

The NMI Rollers' Irvin Villarin, right, beats a 670 Sonics player for the rebound.

The NMI Rollers' Allan Morilla, right, keeps the ball away from the 670 Sonics' Tony Kim.

The NMI Rollers' Ian Manglona, right, drives against the 670 Sonics' Stephen Bartolo.

A's hit 3 solo shots in victory against Red Sox

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Durant's 37 lead Warriors over Rockets in Game 1

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Title within Fiesta Resort's reach

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Fiesta Resort's Nana Watanabe, left, dribbles her way into the defense of the Ol'Aces' Alliyah Fernandez during the second quarter of Game 1 of their title series in the women's division of the MIBF island-wide caging last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan escaped with a 54-52 victory over the Ol'Aces in overtime during Game 1 of the short finals series in the women's division of the 2018 MIBF Island-wide Basketball League last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Game 2 of the best-of-three championship duel will be played tonight with Fiesta Resort gunning for a sweep and the Ol'Aces hoping for a win to force a deciding Game 3 this Friday.

Fiesta Resort worked on a balance offense to pull off the close win against the top-ranked Ol'Aces. Four different players scored for Fiesta in the extra period with Cassandra Camacho, Nana Watanabe, Jan Travilla, and Mikky Kautz making one field goal apiece. Eleina Santos drilled the two baskets for the Ol'Aces in the extension, while younger sister Annalei hit the other one.

It was a tough loss for the

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Little Legals top Bank of Saipan

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Little Legals and Bank of Saipan players shake hands after their make-up game in the Majors division of the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball last Monday at Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Little Legals outclassed Bank of Saipan, 8-3, in a make-up game in the Majors division of the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball last Monday at Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

G-Boy Pangelinan pitched a complete game and had a no-hitter in the first five innings to power the Little Legals to their eighth win in nine games. He also did well at the plate, going 2-for-3—one single and one double—and scored two runs and one RBI.

Catcher Cardi Borja helped the Little Legals' cause, too, with his three RBIs, one run, and 3-for-4 performance at bat. Shortstop Gunner Sablan was only 2-for-4, but contributed two runs, while first baseman Benjie Palacios hit 2-for-4 and made one run and one RBI.

Ahead by only two after four complete innings, 3-1, the Little Legals gained more cushion at the top of the fifth after recording three runs. Borja, who earlier in the first inning blasted an RBI double and was walked in his second at bat, registered an RBI single and also reached off a Bank of Saipan error for their 5-1 advantage. Derence Diaz also made it home off their foe's miscue to make it a 6-1 lead for the Little Legals.

The scores remained at the bottom of the fifth, as Pangelinan struck out Demar-

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NMIFA to host AFC coaching course

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association is encouraging its member clubs to have their coaches attend and complete an Asian Football Confederation "C" coaching certificate course set from June 26 to July 8.

Former NMIFA technical director and CNMI national men's team coach Kiyoshi Sekiguchi will conduct the course, which will cover both the practical and theoretical parts of coaching. NMIFA technical director Michiteru Mita, who holds an AFC Pro license certificate, will be assisting Sekiguchi and asked various clubs and their coaches to capitalize

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
NMIFA technical head Michiteru Mita, right, listens to his predecessor Kiyoshi Sekiguchi giving instructions during a coaching course held in December 2016 at the Koblerville Elementary School Field. Sekiguchi will be on island next month to conduct an Asian Football Confederation "C" coaching certificate course.